

'Star Wars' unlikely before 2010

PARIS (R) — It will take at least 25 years to develop and deploy any reasonably effective space-based missile defence system, according to a committee of French military and scientific experts. France should, meanwhile, pursue its research into ways of penetrating any such space shield, the committee said in a preliminary report to Defence Minister Paul Quilès. The conclusions were among non-classified elements of the report released to French defence correspondents on Tuesday. The committee said a new generation of directed energy weapons, using laser and particle beam technology, would be required to destroy nuclear missiles in their initial propulsion phase. The highly-technical analysis drew a distinction between two types of laser weapons being researched, labelled "continuous" and "impulsion." The first would continuously emit energy fed into it. The second would store energy and blast it out in much more powerful, short bursts.

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Aden buries Ismail and coup victims

ADEN (R) — An estimated 15,000 mourners joined a funeral procession on Tuesday to bury South Yemen's former President Abdul Fattah Ismail and two other prominent politicians slain in a power struggle last month. Armed troops were posted on rooftops along the route of the procession through the war-ravaged capital as the nation began three days of national mourning. The death of Mr. Ismail was not announced until Monday. Mr. Ismail, 47, died on Jan. 13 after surviving a shootout at the politburo headquarters. Two rocket-propelled grenades blasted the armoured personnel carrier in which he escaped. Two victims of the politburo bloodbath — former Vice President Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar and Defence Minister Saleh Mosleb Qassem — were given a martyr's funeral with Mr. Ismail.

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Armitage arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Armitage arrived in Amman on Tuesday for a visit expected to last several days. Mr. Armitage was greeted at the airport by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Shari Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb and senior aides as well as the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and the U.S. military attache in Amman.

'Lebanese Forces' seize bombing suspects

BEIRUT (R) — Rightist militiamen on Tuesday seized 64 suspected of bombings that killed more than 30 people, militia sources said. Eight booby-trapped bombs have gone off in the mainly Christian east of the Lebanese capital since a Christian militia chief was toppled in street battles there three weeks ago. A statement by the new leadership of the "Lebanese Forces" militia said detainees were suspected of working for ousted, Lebanese Forces' chief Elie Hobeika. The statement did not say how many people had been arrested in the sweep in east Beirut and nearby hills, but sources in the militia said they numbered 64.

19-million Africans face famine risk

GENEVA (R) — Seventeen to 19 million Africans will need emergency food supplies and other aid this year despite largely successful international efforts to combat drought and famine in 1985, a United Nations official said Tuesday. Maurice Strong, executive director of the U.N. office for emergency operations in Africa, told a news conference the worst hit populations were in Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Sudan and Botswana. Total estimated aid for Africa in 1986 would cost about \$880 million, compared with \$2.9 billion last year.

Court drops charges against Lech Walesa

GDANSK, Poland (R) — Court authorities dropped criminal charges against Solidarity leader Lech Walesa at his trial on Tuesday in a move which he immediately hailed as a first step toward compromise in Poland. Mr. Walesa, surrounded by jubilant supporters at the Gdansk regional court, told reporters: "Reason has won out. This is the first step towards compromise since December 1981." No evidence was offered against the union leader who was accused by 15 electoral officers of slandering them in statements he made during general elections last October which Solidarity urged its supporters to boycott.

Floods hit Morocco

RABAT (R) — After a series of droughts since 1980 Morocco was hit on Tuesday by floods caused by torrential weekend rain. Main roads from Rabat and Meknes to Tangier in the north were closed to traffic and big areas of farmland in the Gharb area were flooded when Wadi Sebou overflowed its banks, officials said.

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Iraq says Iranian offensive totally crushed, denies Fao fell

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer
with agency dispatches

IRAQ SAID ON Tuesday its forces had completely crushed an Iranian attack east of the southern city of Basra after recapturing an island seized early in Iran's latest Gulf war offensive.

A high command spokesman said: "We announce the good tidings of crushing the enemy completely and kicking him away from the area of penetration on the right wing of the Third Army Corps."

Third Corps defends an area from Basra, Iraq's second city, as far as the Shatt Al Arab waterway, where Iraqi special forces earlier fought an 18-hour battle to retake Umm Al Rassas Island in the middle of the waterway. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein telephoned His Majesty King Hussein to inform him of the eviction of all Iranian troops from Umm Al Rassas, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. President Hussein told the King that the Iraqi forces were chasing away the remnants of the Iranian attacking forces, Petra said.

In reply, the King voiced Jordan's deep pride in the Iraqi people and armed forces in their just battle in defence of Arab land and Arab dignity. The King said Iraq's victory is one for the whole Arab Nation, Petra reported.

Iraq's Third Corps Commander

Major-General Maher Abed Al Rashid asked President Hussein for permission to cross the border and advance towards the southern Iranian city of Al Mahammarah (Khorramshahr). Baghdad Radio reported.

It quoted him as saying in a cable to the president that enemy losses had been very large. "Nobody survived... except those captured. All their weapons and equipment were seized, including usable tanks."

The commander of the Third Army Corps, from a position of superiority, awaits the presidential order to advance towards Al Mahammarah to establish new positions deep inside enemy territory and his defence lines," the general said.

Iraq occupied Khorramshahr at the beginning of the war and the Iranians reentered it in 1982 after the Iraqis withdrew. Iran said on Tuesday its troops, advancing on another front farther south, captured the disused Iraqi oil port of Fao, at the head of the Gulf, a report denied by Iraq.

Fao was Iraq's southern oil terminal until it was bombed by Iran early in the war. Most Iraqi oil is now exported through pipelines across Turkey and Saudi Arabia.

Both sides claimed to have killed or wounded thousands of enemy soldiers. After what appeared to be the fiercest fighting for at least a year in the war which began in September 1980, Baghdad Radio interrupted programmes to announce that "our heroic troops, led by Special Forces Brigadier Bareq Abdullah, have succeeded in liberating (Umm Al Rassas) island from the dirt of the enemy."

The Iraqi flag is waving over the island and the land of the forefathers once again."

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the operation to recapture the island took 18 hours, starting at 4:00 p.m. (1300 GMT) Monday. It said thousands of enemy corpses were seen floating in the 400-to-500-metre wide Shatt Al Arab and washing south into the Gulf.

INA confirmed that some Iranians managed to cross Shatt Al Arab early in the offensive which began late on Sunday night, but said Iraqi troops retained full control of Basra, 80 kilometres up the Shatt from Fao, and of the waterway itself.

Witnesses in the south told Reuters they had seen long columns of Iraqi tanks, missiles, heavy artillery and troops heading for the front. Kuwait called on all Arab nations to join defending Iraq, saying

the Iranian attack was "shaking stability and security and aggravating tensions in the Arabian Gulf region." (See page 2).

Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nasif Jasssem called Iran's claim that it captured Fao "completely baseless."

Kuwait's call for Arab unity against Iran was issued in a joint statement from the 50-member parliament and 16-member cabinet.

The statement urged the 21 member nations of the Arab League to follow the League's common defence charter and help Iraq.

Saudi Arabia and North Yemen also issued statements supporting Iraq, with the Saudi government saying Iran's attack posed a "threat to peace and stability" throughout the Gulf.

Iran, meanwhile, sought to assure Kuwait that its offensive was not aimed at neighbouring countries, but it also warned the Kuwaitis not to let Iraqi forces use Kuwait's territory for attacks against Iran.

The Iranian news agency (IRNA) said Iran had sent an envoy to Kuwait on Monday and it quoted a spokesman for war information headquarters as saying Iran has no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of neighbouring states.

INA said the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah,

(Continued on page 3)

Chamoun proposes treaty between Lebanon and Syria

BEIRUT (R) — Veteran Christian leader Camille Chamoun on Tuesday proposed that Lebanon and Syria sign a treaty in a bid to head off a showdown between the two governments.

"We are ready to sign an agreement of cooperation and friendship between the two countries that would preserve the dignity and sovereignty of the two countries," the 85-year-old former president told the Voice of Lebanon radio.

Political analysts said the move was an attempt by Mr. Chamoun to regain the initiative for Lebanon's Maronite community and divert mounting pressure on President Amin Gemayel to resign.

"We are ready every hour for a meeting of the two governments to discuss relations," Mr. Chamoun said amid signs of growing anger in Damascus at Mr. Gemayel's refusal to endorse a Syrian-backed militia agreement to end civil war in Lebanon.

Mr. Gemayel has been on the defensive since he refused to throw his weight behind a pact which would have ended hostilities by slashing the Christian presidency's powers and giving Muslims more say in government.

Many schools and colleges, meanwhile, closed in Lebanon on Tuesday in protest over the murder of a teacher.

Mikhail Waked, 38, a Lebanese Communist Party member from a Christian family, was kidnapped last December. His bullet-riddled body was found four days ago in the ruins of a war-damaged luxury hotel in West Beirut.

Posters condemning Mr. Waked's death were pinned to school gates in the capital's western sector, while some colleges

were also reported closed in the southern city of Sidon. No-one has so far claimed responsibility for the killing.

On Beirut's "greenline" battlefield, meanwhile, sporadic firing continued after a young Lebanese woman journalist was killed by snipers there.

Security sources told Reuters Sayeda Naim Khoury, 23, a journalist for the weekly magazine An Nahar Arab and International, was shot dead Monday night on the eastern side of the "Museum crossing" linking Beirut's mostly Christian eastern and Muslim-dominated western enclaves.

Violence hit other areas of Lebanon on Monday when pro-Syrian militias fought army troops near President Gemayel's hometown and Syrian soldiers clashed with Muslim fundamentalists in the northern port of Tripoli.

Zamyatin rules out early resumption of ties with Israel

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Kremlin spokesman Leonid Zamyatin was quoted on Tuesday as saying the Soviet Union was ready to attend an international conference on the Middle East "tomorrow," but ruled out an early resumption of diplomatic ties with Israel.

Mr. Zamyatin, speaking in an interview published by Beirut's As Saifi daily, denied claims that a mass exodus of Soviet Jews was about to begin.

"The Soviet Union is the homeland of Soviet Jews, and they are not thinking of leaving," said Mr. Zamyatin, chief of the International Information Department of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

Mr. Zamyatin said there had been a considerable drop in the number of Soviet Jews applying for emigration visas.

"Not more than 800 Jews left the USSR in 1984 and 1985," Mr. Zamyatin said.

He accused the United States of seeking to conclude separate peace agreements in the Middle East, thus undermining the chances of holding an international conference to resolve the Middle East conflict.

"As far as we're concerned we are fully prepared to proceed to the conference tomorrow, but I think the American side must be approached to set a date for it," Mr. Zamyatin was quoted as saying.

Moscow has long advocated an international conference to reach a comprehensive Middle East settlement, but until recently Washington insisted peace could only come through direct talks between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

Asked about the chances of re-establishing diplomatic relations with Israel, Mr. Zamyatin recalled that the Soviet Union broke off those ties during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war and said: "We do not see an end to this (Israeli) aggression yet, so the Soviet Union has no justification at the moment to reconsider its position."

He said Lebanon's 11-year-old civil war resulted from its "arbitrary entry by force into the satellite of U.S. vital interests."

He urged the United States to take its hands off Lebanon.

'No release for Mandela today'

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A South African prisons spokesman denied on Tuesday that black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela would be released on Wednesday.

The spokesman for the South African prisons department told Reuters Mr. Mandela "will not be released today or tomorrow."

He declined to reply when asked whether the 68-year-old leader of the African National Congress (ANC), who has been in jail since 1962, might be freed after Wednesday.

He said Mr. Mandela was still in his cell at Pollsmoor prison near Cape Town.

Israel Radio said earlier that Mr. Mandela would go free on Wednesday as part of a major East-West spy swap carried out in Berlin on Tuesday.

The radio report said Israeli leaders had exchanged messages with Pretoria about Mr. Mandela's release.

This could not be confirmed immediately in South Africa.

Mr. Mandela was convicted in 1964 on charges of sabotage and plotting the overthrow of the white minority government.

His wife Winnie said on Monday she did not think he would be included in Tuesday's East-West deal, the most publicised spy exchange since World War II.

West and East swap prisoners in Berlin

WEST BERLIN (Agencies) — The West and East on Tuesday exchanged nine convicted or suspected spies over the Glienicke Bridge in a highly publicised event.

The swap on the stark green Glienicke Bridge, site of a series of spytrades stretching back to 1962, was the most highly publicised ever and more than 200 reporters and television crew were gathered on the Western side.

Officials from East and West assembled at a white line in the centre of the bridge marking the border and the exchange took less than 35 minutes.

The exchange at the East-West frontier, televised live in the United States and West Germany, gave the world a rare glimpse into the mechanics of an operation normally shrouded in tight secrecy.

The five prisoners freed by the West were brought to the bridge in a convoy of cars and marched to the centre line, dominated by a huge East German flag, by U.S. security men.

The first to be released from the Eastern side was Anatoly Shebaransky, a Soviet mathematician who was sentenced to 13 years in jail in 1978 for spying for the U.S.

The U.S. ambassador to West Germany, Richard Burt, received the convicted spy and sped off with him to Frankfurt.

Following Shebaransky to the



CROWN PRINCE VISITS KARAK: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday visits a sports city being built in Karak by the Karak Municipality. Earlier on Tuesday Prince Hassan chaired a meeting in Karak to review the Karak Governorate's five-year plan (See page 3)

Shamir reacts to new U.S. statement by urging Washington to avoid PLO

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir appealed to the United States on Tuesday to refrain from contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) even if the PLO indirectly recognises Israel.

Shamir said in a speech that regardless of whether the PLO met American demands to accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Israel would never negotiate with a "terrorist organisation."

"It is irrelevant to us whether the PLO accepts or rejects this or that formula, and we would like our friends and those who believe in peace to refrain from engaging in any contacts with the PLO," Shamir said.

His speech was in response to statements by U.S. State Department spokesman Charles Redman, who said the Palestinians had rights beyond those spelled out in the two resolutions.

"We have previously stated our realisation that the Palestinian problem is more than a refugee problem," Redman said, referring reporters to President Ronald Reagan's Sept. 1, 1982, plan that envisioned a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation.

The PLO has long objected to the resolutions because they refer to Palestinians only as a refugee problem.

"Israel (is) committed to maintain the peace process as long as there are partners capable and willing to engage in it," said Shamir. "Peace and the PLO are mutually exclusive."

Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc that shares power with the Labour Party of Prime Minister Shimon Peres, agreed with Peres that in contending that Jordan had failed to win pledges from the PLO to negotiate peace on the basis of the two U.N. resolutions. The foreign minister took issue

with Peres' suggestions on Saturday that Israel should unilaterally grant 1.3 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza "autonomy" if peace efforts remained stalled.

"I personally don't agree with any autonomy that is not a result of agreement among the parties involved," said Shamir who added that Israel, the United States, Egypt and Jordan should be involved in negotiating "autonomy."

State Department spokesman Redman said on Monday the outcome of the recent Jordan-PLO talks could not be described as failure and that His Majesty King Hussein remained committed to peace efforts.

Redman also repeated the U.S. contention that acceptance of Resolution 242 was a prerequisite for joining Middle East peace negotiations.

Asked to comment on the suggestions that the talks on the Middle East peace process last week between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and King Hussein, Redman said: "It would be premature to describe the Hussein-Arafat talks as a failure. The King clearly maintains his commitment to the peace process and remains determined to see the process through."

"We have repeatedly cautioned that progress in the peace process will remain incremental. We remain committed to moving forward in the peace process," Redman said.

Questioned about press reports that Soviet pressure on Mr. Arafat caused the "failure" of the Amman talks, Redman pointed out that "Moscow has made no secret of its opposition to the course charted by King Hussein last February and there has been consistency in Soviet policy in this regard. They have opposed every move toward direct negotiations

watching for violence and fraud in the bitter political fight between Mr. Marcos and Mrs. Aquino, said it could be some time before a final result was known.

After a 35-minute meeting with Mr. Reagan, Mr. Lugar told reporters his "gut political reaction was that the results of the count on Friday night were managed... and aborted by government officials."

"Clearly Mr. Marcos has the ability to manage the results," Mr. Lugar said.

Earlier on Tuesday, Mr. Marcos offered Mrs. Aquino a job as a top adviser after the United States signalled it wanted a strong Philippine government with both of them working together.

Mr. Marcos made his offer to the opposition leader after she appeared grim-faced at a press conference. She refused to answer questions and read a statement appealing to "friends abroad" to bolster the victory claim.

The Reagan administration on Monday urged Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Marcos to work together after the result was declared.

Mrs. Aquino said in her statement: "In this time of need we will learn who our real friends are."

Philippines vote count delayed again as disputes hit parliament

MANILA (Agencies) — Parliament tried to start counting returns on Tuesday to proclaim a winner in last Friday's Philippine presidential election but adjourned after seven hours of argument.

Members unlocked ballot boxes containing returns from the country's 13 regions including Manila.

But after repeated procedural disputes and delays they locked the boxes again and went home without examining the tally of votes for President Ferdinand Marcos and his opposition rival Corason Aquino.

Speaker Nicanor Ynguez finally adjourned the second day's attempt to start the count after the opposition said all but four of its members had left the chamber.

People milled about the floor of the house as it set about its constitutional task of counting the official returns from 140 centres in provinces, towns and municipalities. The Marcos-controlled assembly has 13 more days to complete its task.

An eight-man counting committee supervised by Mr. Ynguez managed to examine an official list of contents of only one ballot box

Kuwait urges Arabs to help Iraq defend against Iran

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait on Tuesday urged the 21-nation Arab League to invoke its common defence charter and summit resolutions and help Iraq defend itself against Iran.

The best was issued jointly by the cabinet and parliament, hours after reports reached here about Iranian forces stabbing into Iraq and bringing the flames of war close to the doorsteps of Kuwait.

Reporters fresh from border locations said they sighted no military action or any vehicles anywhere near Kuwait.

Iran has claimed its forces were in control of locations overlooking Iraq's Umm Al Qasr naval base adjacent to the Kuwait border and the Khur Abdulla Channel between Iraq and Kuwait.

The Iraqis have said that the invaders were being "beaten back and retreating in disarray."

The Iraqi High Command said the invaders were dislodged at the southern region of Faw.

In their joint statement, the 50-member parliament and the 16-man cabinet expressed "denunciation and strong concern over Iran's attempt to seize a part of Iraq's territory."

The Iranian action is aimed at harming the independence and sovereignty of an Arab state, despite all efforts exerted to attain peace and brotherly ties between the two Muslim neighbours," said the statement.

It said the government and parliament regarded the latest Iranian onslaught as "shaking stability and security and aggravating tension in the Arabian Gulf region, thus availing the major powers a pretext to intervene in the area."

"We demand that all Arab countries abide by the Arab League (common defence) charter and resolutions, primarily the Fez Summit resolutions, regarding the war between Iraq and Iran," it said, underscoring the "importance" of safeguarding the rights of the two warring Muslim neighbours.

The statement was obviously

alluding to the discord over shared navigation rights in and sovereignty on the Shatt Al Arab estuary, flashpoint of the protracted conflict that broke out in 1980.

Less than two years after the beginning of the Gulf war, Iraq withdrew its forces from the occupied Iranian territories and began drumming up peace overtures. Iran refused this, and massive sizeable forces of regulars and volunteers of Revolutionary Guardsmen along the southern sector of a 1,180-kilometre war front.

The Tehran Islamic Revolutionary regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has repeatedly vowed to pursue the war until the Baghdad government is replaced by a pro-Iranian Islamic government.

The Iraqis early in 1984 gave the war a turn for the worse, threatening to choke off Iran's economy by blocking its crude oil exports.

Subsequently, Iraqi warplanes began attacking oil tankers within a 50-mile radius around Iran's Kharg Island shipping terminal, defining it as a military exclusion zone.

The Iraqis responded with a warning that unless the Gulf tanker sea lanes were kept secure for its shipping, then Iran would make them insecure for all countries of the Gulf region.

This precipitated what became known as the tanker war, with Iran sending its jet fighters firing rockets into commercial vessels south of the war zone and close to the territorial waters of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

The Iraqis in previous "human wave" assaults tried to carve a bridgehead in the southern Iraqi Basra region, establish a military wedge and isolate it from the rest of Iraq.

These attempts scored limited and sometimes short-lived suc-

cess, with Iraqis often claiming to have flushed the Iranians out of scattered locations along the southern Huwazah Marshes and the oil-bearing Majnoon Island.

The latest Iranian onslaught appeared to have pierced through the Iraqi Navy, shooting through Shatt Al Arab and trying to seize strategic military bases at Umm Al Qasr and Umm Al Rasas.

The ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, has discussed by telephone with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein the "sound military position" of Iraq, in the face of the Iranian offensive, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported without elaborating.

The right-wing newspaper Al Seyassa meanwhile said the Iranian onslaught was doomed, "because they have committed the same old fatal error of relying on human-wave assault tactics."

The Iraqis, it said, were still superior in the air and strongly entrenched on the ground.

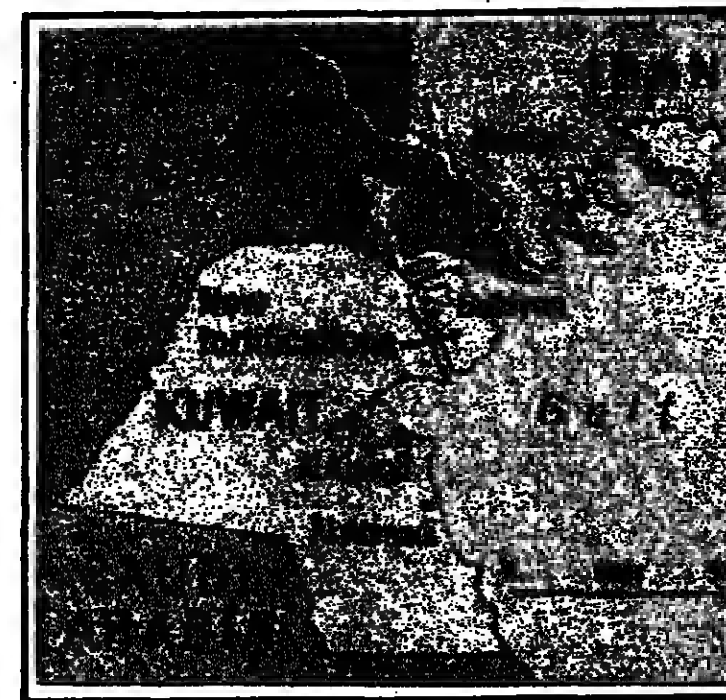
The paper's outspoken publisher-editor Ahmad Jarallah urged the Arab powers to rush "political support to Iraq, if circumstances blocked your ability to offer military backing."

The independent newspapers Al Qabas and Al Anbaa expressed "confidence" in the ability of the Iraqi Armed Forces to repulse the Iraqis.

Iraq on Monday called for an emergency meeting of the Arab League seven-nation follow up committee to examine the "latest Iranian aggression," the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

The committee comprising the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, North Yemen, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Iraq — was created by the League foreign ministers conference in Baghdad in March 1984, shortly after the tanker war broke out.

The committee was entrusted with mediating an end to the war. In Sana'a, the North Yemeni government on Monday asked unspecified Arab powers to fight alongside Iraq against Iran.



In Riyadh, the government of Saudi Arabia warned that the Iranian offensive was a "threat to peace and stability of the entire (Gulf) region," appealing for immediate international efforts to help end the war.

Diplomatic sources said Kuwait was believed to have troops on Bubiyan, which they described as a large area of fairly flat sand rising up to nine feet (nearly three metres) above water levels.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei told a public gathering in Tehran that he had sent an envoy to Kuwait.

"He will tell them if you can't resist the Iraqis and stop their aggression in Bubiyan, we cannot tolerate the enemy behind us and we will have to defend ourselves with strength," Mr. Khamenei said.

Babiyan runs only a short distance offshore along almost a third of Kuwait's coastline and stops just 40 kilometres from Kuwait City.

Shatt Al Arab is key to Gulf conflict

The Shatt Al Arab waterway, focus of Iran's latest Gulf war offensive, has for decades been at the root of enmity between Iran and Iraq.

Control of the 160 kilometre

waterway, running from the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers at Al Qurnah to the Gulf, was handed to Iraq under a 1937 treaty with Iran.

From halfway along its length, just north of the Iranian town of Khorramshahr, to the Gulf, the Shatt marks the border between the two countries.

Its name is English means "Arab Shore" — it marks the eastern limit of the Arab World north of the Gulf, dividing it from Iran, which calls it the Arvand River.

To the west of the Shatt on the Gulf lies the Iraqi oil port of Fao. Until the outbreak of the war in September 1980, Fao had been a major outlet for Iraqi oil exports, fed by pipelines from the Rumaila and Zubair oilfields to the west.

Lying within range of Iranian guns, however, the port was heavily bombed and shelled early in the war, forcing its abandonment.

Iran's assault of Fao also brought it to within 40 kilometres of Kuwait, one of Iraq's major backers in the conflict. The port lies opposite Kuwait's Bubiyan Island across the Khawr 'Abd Allah Channel at the northern end of the Gulf.

Despite the 1937 treaty, Iraq's control of the strategic Shatt remained a constant irritant in relations with Iran.

PLO leader says Israel is turning world into battlefield

AMMAN (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) second highest official said Monday the world will become an Israeli-Palestinian battlefield if Israel mounts more operations like last week's hijacking of a Libyan jet.

Khalil Al Wazir reiterated a PLO position outlined last November — that it will not carry out attacks outside Israel and Israeli-occupied territories as long as Israel does not range far afield in its war against the Palestinians.

"But when the Israelis are taking the offensive outside, that means it will be... right to reply to them in their way of dealing also," Mr. Wazir, deputy commander of PLO forces, said in an interview with the Associated Press.

Mr. Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, stopped short of endorsing recent threats made by fringe commando groups and the Libyan government to divert Israeli or U.S. airliners in retaliation for last Tuesday's diversion of the Libyan executive jet. The Israelis mistakenly believed the plane was carrying Palestinian commando leaders.

On political matters, Mr. Wazir said the Arab-Israeli peace process is at a standstill in the aftermath of last week's talks involving Jordan, the PLO and the United States.

The Americans blame the PLO for the breakdown, noting that the Palestinian group still refuses unconditionally to accept longstanding U.N. Security Council

resolutions that guarantee Israel's right to exist.

The PLO blames the United States and Israel for continuing to refuse formal recognition of what the Palestinians say are their rights of "self-determination" that is, to an independent state on land held by Israel.

"We are trying to continue efforts by all means... with the Arabs, the Europeans, who can (get) the Americans to change their minds on this," Mr. Wazir said.

Mr. Wazir, 51, was interviewed in Amman.

In recent years, Amman has become an increasingly important centre for the PLO, whose headquarters in Tunisia were bombed by Israeli warplanes last October.

The PLO leader, clad in a drab brown walking suit, waved an index finger through the air as he spoke animatedly of Israeli attacks abroad against Palestinians — listing the Tunisia bombing, air attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, the assassination of PLO commando officers in Europe, and the hijacking of the Libyan executive jet, which was released five hours after being forced down on a flight from Libya to Syria.

"Isn't this official state terrorism?" Mr. Wazir said of the events.

He noted that Mr. Arafat reaffirmed in Cairo last November that his fighters would not stage attacks outside Israeli-controlled lands.

He said the PLO will not step up its commando campaign by "internationalising" the conflict.

Khalil Al Wazir

ernationalising" the conflict. "We don't want to mobilise international opinion against our just struggle," he said.

But when asked about the threats to U.S. and Israeli civil aviation issued by Libya and Syria-based Palestinian groups, Mr. Wazir said such threats were to be expected.

"Why give this right (to intercept civilian aircraft) to the Israelis, and deny it to those who want to reply to them?" he asked.

If Israel continues such international actions, the PLO official said, "Israel is opening the world... to be a field for battles with them."

Would the PLO attempt international hijackings?

"Until now, that is not our way," he said. And in the future? "I don't know," he replied, "but added that Israel was pushing its enemies to resort to 'all the rights to reply'."

Algeria rejects Maghreb summit

ALGERS (R) — The official Algerian press Tuesday rejected the idea of a summit of the five Maghreb states in North Africa.

The daily Al Moudjahid said Algeria would accept a summit of six states including the self-styled Saharan Arab Republic (SADR) proclaimed by Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for control of the Western Sahara.

Failing this the paper said Algeria would accept a summit of four states "who are not at war" (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia) which would exclude Morocco and the SADR.

"The paper was commenting in an editorial on 'rumours and speculations' in the international press about an eventual Maghreb summit conference."

A summit has been envisaged

since Algerian President Chadli Benjedid met Col. Muammar Qadhafi of Libya on their common frontier at Ain Amenas late last month.

Al Moudjahid said Maghreb unity was discussed at Ain Amenas but that it could not be achieved without a settlement of the Western Sahara conflict.

"The way towards the construction of the Grand Arab Maghreb undoubtedly lies through a settlement of this conflict and the establishment of peace in the region, at whatever level including a summit," the paper said.

Libya's number two, Maj. Abdul Salam Jalloud, arrived in Algiers Monday for further talks on bilateral relations following last month's summit between the two countries' leaders, Algerian

News Agency (APS) reported.

In another regional development, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammed Mzali Monday proposed a North African summit to be hosted by President Habib Bourguiba.

Diplomats in Tunis said the idea of a summit meeting of the five Maghreb countries — Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania — was hatched at the meeting in Amenas.

They said Algeria was no longer insisting on participation of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed by the Polisario.

Previous attempts by Tunisia to host such a summit have foundered on the issue of SADR participation, opposed by Morocco.

Paris blasts linked with 9 Mideast nationals

PARIS (R) — French police working on tips from European colleagues have traced nine Middle East nationals believed to be linked to the wave of bombings which struck the French capital last week, police sources said Tuesday.

A first group of seven, mostly Syrian and Lebanese nationals, was taken in for questioning Friday in connection with a blast which burned out a Latin quarter bookshop a week ago. It was the third of four mystery bombs planted in the capital last week that left 21 people injured.

Two other men, one of them carrying an Iranian passport, were followed by police on Friday but escaped detention by abandoning their weapons and their car, registered in West Germany.

Police, who apparently were tipped off by their presence by West German security, found a Czechoslovak-made automatic pistol and a Polish machine-pistol. Both types of weapons have been used in several attacks in the past few years by Lebanese and Palestinian groups.

Security sources said the first group was traced with the help of Switzerland. After the bookshop bomb, police traced two Syrian brothers to a Latin quarter hotel where they had been placing calls to a Middle East national near Geneva.

In a room in the same hotel, investigators found two Lebanese men in contact with another Lebanese and two French nationals of Syrian origin.

Airport police picked up the Syrian brothers and one of the Lebanese citizens Friday before they were to board a flight to Libya.

Aden parliamentarians check in their guns

ADEN (R) — South Yemen's parliamentarians nowadays check in their personal handguns before entering the Supreme People's Council building and collect them on the way out.

The practice is a legacy of last month's bloodbath at the adjoining headquarters of the Yemeni Socialist Party politburo, where rival factions of the Marxist regime fought a gunbattle which sparked a 12-day war for control of the South Arabian state.

Visiting newsmen mask their mouths and noses against the stench of the bullet-riddled politburo chamber — scene of what has become known as the "Monday massacre" — where cinnamoned blood still mats the carpets and corridors.

There, the country's new leaders say, benchmarks of ousted President Ali Nasser Mohammad gunned down several of his chief opponents in a mafia-style power grab.

Signs of the ensuing carnage, in which as many as 12,000 people are said to have died, are everywhere in the capital.

"I've seen some pretty dreadful damage in my time," said a Western aid worker who was involved in relief programmes after both the Mexican earthquake and Colombian volcano disasters last year, "but this seems to have been a real nightmare."

Areas of the city which saw the heaviest fighting are ghost towns. The facade of the once-prestigious Aden Hotel is punctured by several gaping, smoke-blackened holes, evidence of the fierce battles which raged for control of nearby government buildings and the airport.

A car park opposite has been turned into a scrapyard for the mangled remains of some of the thousands of cars wrecked in battles involving tanks, gunboats and rockets.

The diplomatic quarter appears

to be largely unscathed, apart from the ravaged Soviet embassy near the seaford, which served as an evacuation centre for most of the 6,000 foreigners evacuated by sea during lulls in the fighting.

Devastated buildings for a mile or so along the beachfront testify to dangers braved by the evacuees and their rescuers from Soviet, French and British ships including the British Royal yacht Britannia.

In the once-thriving market area of Mailla, shops and stalls are shuttered and barred. A poster of French sex symbol Brigitte Bardot peers seductively from the window of a video shop onto largely deserted streets.

At Tawahi, near Aden Harbour, tons of soil have been dumped in the streets to soak up oil which poured from storage tanks ruptured in the fighting.

In the central crater district, however, crowds throng the market square, black-veiled women

bagging over the price of vegetables as militiamen stroll among them.

The militiamen, armed with Soviet-made Kalashnikov assault rifles, many clad in green fatigues, peaked caps and sporting Castro-style beards, have cordoned off key areas of the city.

Visiting journalists are closeted in the only functioning hotel, the Gold Mohur, on the outskirts of Aden, and visit only officially-sanctioned areas accompanied by guides. All their dispatches are censored.

Power and communications have been restored throughout most of the capital, and foreign aid officials say war debris including charred tanks and tons of blasted masonry have been cleared with impressive speed.

But when the breeze blows off the Indian Ocean to the east it still carries with it the smell of death from battlegrounds on the city's outskirts.

Chad reports Libyan attack

N'DJAMENA (R) — The government of Chad has announced that Libyan forces attacked its army troops at Kouba Olanga, in the centre of the country, breaking a recent lull in hostilities in the 20-year-old Chad war.

A communique released Monday night by Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou said columns of Libyan forces attacked Chadian troops stationed in the outpost, 450 kilometres north east of the capital, N'Djamena, at 3:45 p.m. (1445 GMT) Monday.

"It is likely that other positions of our forces will be attacked in the forthcoming hours and days," it added.

The statement did not say whether there had been casualties from the reported attack, marking an apparent end to a stalemate but calm situation in the Central African state during recent months.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

<div>JORDAN TELEVISION</div> <div>Tel: 77111-19</div> <div>MAIN CHANNEL</div> <div>16:00 Religious programmes</div> <div>16:20 Children's programmes</div> <div>16:40 Health programmes</div> <div>16:50 Scientific programmes</div> <div>17:30 Programme Review</div> <div>22:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>22:30 Arabic Series</div> <div>22:45 Programme Review</div> <div>22:50 Documentary</div> <div>23:15 Wrestling</div> <div>23:45 News in Arabic</div> <div>FOREIGN CHANNEL</div> <div>18:00 French Programme: Varieties</div> <div>19:00 News in French</div> <div>19:15 Le theatre de boulevard</div> <div>19:30 News in Hebrew</div> <div>20:00 News in Arabic</div> <div>20:30 Three's Company</div> <div>21:10 Documentary: "Ancient Lives"</div> <div>22:00 News in English</div> <div>22:20 Falcon Crest - The Last Laugh</div> <div>RADIO JORDAN</div> <div>855 KHz. AM & 94 MHz. FM</div> <div>& partly on 95.6 KHz. SW</div> <div>Tel: 77111-19</div> <div>07:00 Light Music</div> <div>07:30 Newsweek</div> <div>08:00 Morning Show</div> <div>10:00 News Summary</div> <div>10:30 Morning Show Cont.</div> <div>11:00 Pop Session</div> <div>12:00 News Summary</div> <div>12:30 Pop Session Cont.</div> <div>13:00 News Summary</div> <div>13:30 Pop Session</div> <div>14:00 News Bulletin</div> <div>14:10 Instruments</div> <div>14:15 The Young Sound</div> <div>15:00 Concert Hour</div> <div>16:00 News Summary</div> <div>16:30 Instruments</div> <div>17:00 Jordan Weekly</div> <div>17:30 Pop Session</div> <div>18:00 News Summary</div> <div>18:30 Over a Cup of Tea</div> <div>18:50 Arab Music</div> <div>19:00 News Desk</div> <div>19:30 Date with a Star</div> <div>20:00 Evening Show</div> <div>21:00 News Summary</div> <div>21:45 Evening Show Cont.</div>	<div>21:55 News Summary</div> <div>22:00 Evening Show Continued</div> <div>22:30 News Summary</div> <div>22:45 Evening Show Continued</div> <div>22:57 News Headlines</div> <div>23:00 Close Down</div> <div>BBC WORLD SERVICE</div> <div>639, 720, 1413 KHz.</div> <div>06:00 News 06:30 Waveguide 06:40</div> <div>06:50 Arabic Series</div> <div>06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News</div> <div>07:00 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30</div> <div>Report on Religion 07:45 The World</div> <div>Today 08:00 News 08:30 Median</div> <div>08:40 World News 09:30 24 Hours:</div> <div>News Summary 09:30 Development '86</div> <div>09:45 That's Trid 16:00 World News</div> <div>10:00 Reflections 11:15 Classical</div> <div>Record Review 18:30 Quote, Unquote</div> <div>11:00 World News 11:00 British Press</div> <div>Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30</div> <div>Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead</div> <div>11:45 Planners and Swaps 12:00 News</div> <div>Summary: Omnibus 12:30 Jazz Score</div> <div>13:00 World News 13:00 News about</div> <div>Britain 13:15 Doctor Who 13:25 A Letter</div> <div>from Wales 13:30 Meridian</div> <div>Radio 14:00 News 14:15 Nature</div> <div>Notbook 14:25 The Faming World 14:45</div> <div>Sports Round-up 15:00 World News</div> <div>15:00 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30</div> <div>Development '86</div> <div>16:00 News Summary:</div> <div>Outlook 16:45 Report 17:15</div> <div>Phonnet 17:40 Radio Newswel 17:15</div> <div>Phonnet - The Nightingale 17:30 Hinge</div> <div>and Hinge 18:00 World News 18:00</div> <div>Commentary 18:15 Rock Salad 18:45</div> <div>The World Today 19:00 World News</div> <div>19:45 A Letter from Wales 19:15</div> <div>Monitor 19:30 News Summary</div> <div>19:50 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek</div> <div>20:30 Top Twenty 21:00 Outlook: News</div> <div>Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report</div> <div>21:45 Good Books 22:00 World News</div> <div>22:00 24 Hours: 22:30 Assignment</div> <div>23:00 News Summary: Network U.K.</div> <div>VOICE OF AMERICA</div> <div>MW 1260 & SW 7200 9165, 11740,</div> <div>11925 and 15210 Hz.</div> <div>06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA</div> <div>Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline</div> <div>07:30 VOA Mainline 08:00 News 08:10</div> <div>Newsline 08:30 VOA Memorial News</div> <div>Summary 07:00 News 17:10 Newsline</div> <div>17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10</div> <div>Focus 18:30 Special English News 18:45</div> <div>Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline</div> <div>19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News</div>	<div>TODAY'S EVENTS</div> <div>EXHIBITIONS</div> <div>* An exhibition of Jordanian environment: art works by David Roberts and John Lewis at the Housing Bank complex.</div> <div>* French exhibition: "Jerash, vie et mort du sanctuaire de Zeus" at the French Cultural Centre in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities (until Feb. 16).</div> <div>FILMS</div> <div>* "She stoops to conquer" at 7:30 p.m. at the British Cinema.</div> <div>* "Coal Miner's Daughter" at 6:00 p.m. at the American Centre.</div> <div>* "Death of a Thief" with German subtitles at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.</div> <div>VIDEO</div> <div>* "Cannes 85" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.</div> <div>CULTURAL CENTRES</div> <div>Royal Cultural Centre : Tel: 6610267</div> <div>American Centre: 644371</div> <div>American Centre Library: 641520</div> <div>British Council: 6361478</div> <div>French Cultural Centre: 637009</div> <div>Goethe Institute: 641993</div> <div>Soviet Cultural Centre: 644205</div> <div>Spanish Cultural Centre: 634019</div> <div>Turkish Cultural Centre: 639777</div> <div>Hayat Arts Centre: 665195</div> <div>Husseini Youth City: 667195</div> <div>Y.W.C.A.: 641793</div> <div>Y.W.M.A.: 644251</div> <div>Amman Municipal Library: 637111</div> <div>University of Jordan Library: 843555</div> <div>MUSEUMS</div> <div>Follies Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 651760.</div> <div>PRAYER TIMES</div> <div>06:57 Fajr</div> <div>07:22 Sunrise (Sunrise/Dusk)</div> <div>11:59 Dhuhr</div> <div>14:56 Asr</div> <div>17:19 Maghrib</div> <div>18:44 Isha</div>	<div>QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT</div> <div>This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (06) 33200-5, where it should always be verified.</div> <div>ARRIVALS</div> <div>07:30 London, Larnaca (BA)</div> <div>07:50 Karachi (PK)</div> <div>09:35 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>09:45 Agaba (RJ)</div> <div>09:45 Sanaa (YV)</div> <div>10:10 Bahrain (GA)</div> <div>09:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)</div> <div>10:00 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)</div> <div>10:00 Dhahran (RJ)</div> <div>10:05 Kuwait (RJ)</div> <div>12:10 Bahrain (GA)</div> <div>13:45 Kuwait (KU)</div> <div>15:10 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)</div> <div>15:10 Jeddah (SV)</div> <div>17:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)</div> <div>17:50 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>17:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)</div> <div>17:45 Damascus (YV)</div> <div>17:50 London, Paris (RJ)</div> <div>18:30 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)</div> <div>18:30 Rome (RJ)</div> <div>18:35 Beirut (ME)</div> <div>18:35 Istanbul (RJ)</div> <div>19:30 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>20:00 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)</div> <div>20:00 Cairo, Damascus (YV)</div> <div>20:05 Frankfurt-Damascus (LJ)</div> <div>21:15 Tripoli-Damascus (PK)</div> <div>06:25 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>DEPARTURES</div> <div>06:30 Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)</div> <div>07:30 Agaba (RJ)</div> <div>09:10 Larnaca, London (BA)</div> <div>09:50 Athens (OY)</div> <div>09:50 Athens, Rome (RJ)</div> <div>10:15 Damascus, Rome (AZ)</div> <div>10:30 Damascus, Cairo (YV)</div> <div>12:00 Belgrade, London (RJ)</div> <div>12:00 Istanbul (RJ)</div> <div>12:30 Larnaca, Zurich (RJ)</div> <div>13:30 Doha, Dubai, Muscat (RJ)</div> <div>13:30 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>13:30 Kuwait (KU)</div> <div>14:00 Larnaca-Tripoli (LN)</div> <div>14:00 Jeddah (SV)</div> <div>14:05 Sanaa (YV)</div> <div>19:30 Kuwait (RJ)</div>	<div>19:00 Dhahran (RJ)</div> <div>19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)</div> <div>20:10 Baghdad (RJ)</div> <div>20:10 Jeddah (RJ)</div> <div>20:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)</div> <div>20:30 Baghdad (JA)</div> <div>20:15 Cairo (RJ)</div> <div>21:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)</div> <div>21:15 Karachi (PA)</div> <div>MARITIME TRAFFIC</div> <div>Regular-line ships docking at Agaba port:</div> <div>— Cotnam</div> <div>— Agaba Crown</div> <div>— Auratus</div> <div>Amn Kawan and Sons Company, Tel: 623234-9 at your service.</div> <div>WEATHER</div> <div>Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.</div> <div>It will be fair, with the appearance of clouds at different altitudes. Light and variable winds will become southerly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.</div> <div>Amman: 6/15</div> <div>Agaba: 10/22</div> <div>Dahat: 4/17</div> <div>Jordan Valley: 8/20</div> <div>MONEY EXCHANGE</div> <div>Tuesday rates</div> <div>Local currency rates in J.S.</div> <div>Bahraini dinar: 960 968</div> <div>Dutch guilder: 133.1 135.5</div> <div>Egyptian pound: 200 206</div> <div>French franc: 49.2 49.9</div> <div>Iraqi dinar: 344 352</div> <div>Lebanese lira (for 100) 190.8 194.3</div> <div>Kuwaiti dinar: 1267 1274</div> <div>Libanese lira: 14 16</div> <div>Omani rial: 940 950</div> <div>Qatari rial: 99 101</div> <div>Saudi riyal: 67.8 68.5</div> <div>Swiss franc: 179.2 182.4</div> <div>Syrian lira: 23 25</div> <div>U.A.E. dirham: 98 100</div> <div>U.K. sterling pound: 503.7 512.4</div> <div>U.S. dollar: 359.3 363.4</div> <div>W. German mark: 130.6 133</div>	<div>EMERGENCIES</div> <div>Amman governorate: 891228</div> <div>Amman civil defence: 199 199</div> <div>Civil Defence Unit: 271293, 273311</div> <div>Civil Defence Qawalimish: 707733</div> <div>Ambulance: 193, 775111</div> <div>Amman downtown fire brigade: 198</div> <div>First aid: 63041</div> <div>Blood bank: 778303</div> <div>Civil Defence rescue: 661111</div> <div>Police headquarters: 622090-3</div> <div>Police station: 192, 621111, 637777</div> <div>Police headquarters: 629141</div> <div>Traffic police: 8963901</div> <div>Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881</div> <div>Municipal water complaints: 77125/8</div> <div>Queen Alia Int. Airport: (06) 333060</div> <div>NIGHT DUTY</div> <div>AMMAN:</div> <div>Dr. Fouad Samhouni: 661542</div> <div>Dr. Issa Najjar: 510640</div> <div>First pharmacy: 661912</div> <div>Nairobi pharmacy: 626272</div> <div>Amal pharmacy: 603440</div> <div>Al-Falaha pharmacy: 639836</div> <div>Iyad pharmacy: 774822</div> <div>TAXIS:</div> <div>Taxis taxi: 644660</div> <div>Tamer taxi: 666417</div> <div>Dweik taxi: 668154</div> <div>Abdul Hamid taxi: 844978</div> <div>Raghad taxi: 842400</div> <div>IBRD:</div> <div>Dr. Mohammed Al Sami: 273680</div> <div>ZARQA:</div> <div>Dr. Yehia Tawfi: 982684</div> <div>Al-Falaha pharmacy: 985789</div> <div>Al-Gail pharmacy: 985417</div> <div>GENERAL</div> <div>Jordan Television: 773111/19</div> <div>Radio Jordan: 774111/19</div> <div>Ministry of Tourism: 640311</div> <div>Hotel complaints: 666412</div> <div>Police complaints: 661176</div> <div>Telephone information: 12</div> <div>Jordan and Middle East calls: 10</div> <div>Overseas calls: 17</div> <div>Repair service: 11</div>
<div>MARKET PRICES</div> <div>(Fixed prices for imported produce)</div> <div>Uppercut: 170/200</div> <div>Apple (green): 300/450</div> <div>Apple (red): 300/450</div> <div>Banana: 100/170</div> <div>Carrot (yellow): 110/180</div> <div>Chestnut: 700/800</div> <div>Coke (smoke): 450/480</div> <div>Coke (blast furnace): 700/680</div> <div>Onion (dry): 180/140</div> <div>Potatoes: 120/100</div> <div>Sage (green): 300/220</div> <div>Tomato: 70/17</div>					

Rawabdeh briefs mayor of Muscat on municipal projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday conferred with Sheikh Ahmad Ibn Sultan Al Housni, the mayor of Muscat, who arrived in Amman Monday on a five-day visit to Jordan.

Mr. Rawabdeh briefed the visiting mayor on the development of Amman and the programmes that have been carried out in the capital over the past 30 years. He also heard briefing from Sheikh Housni about Oman's municipal development projects. Later, Sheikh Housni was accompanied on a

tour of several municipality departments where he met with officials. He also visited the Green Roman city of Jerash and a number of areas in the Jordan Valley region.

Sheikh Housni said upon his arrival in Amman on Monday that he intends to acquaint himself with the Amman municipality's experience in offering and improving public services. Sheikh Housni will also sign a protocol to launch cooperation in municipal related affairs between Amman and Muscat.

Bahraini education team visits Abdul Hamid Shoman centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting educational delegation from Bahrain Tuesday called at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation where they met with Dr. Asad Abdulla Khamis, the foundation's general director. At the meeting, the delegation was briefed on the foundation's programmes and activities, including the foundation's public library, the cultural centre and the data bank. The delegation also toured the various sections of the foundation.

Earlier, the Bahraini delegation toured archaeological sites in Balqa governorate and visited Al Salt secondary school, the local book museum and the M'addi Community Centre. Also included in the tour was a visit to the Karameh martyrs monument. Several Ministry of Education officials accompanied the delegation.

Municipality plans to construct rotating 'tourist tower'

AMMAN — Amman Municipality is taking steps to build a tourist tower in the Sixth Circle area, the daily Arabic newspaper Al-Rai reported Tuesday. The report said that the tower will be one of Amman's architectural landmarks and that it will be similar to various European towers with rotating sections. The proposed building will include a restaurant, cafeteria, viewing binoculars, a special entrance, lifts, parking areas for taxis,

cars and buses. It is also expected to assist radio and micro-wave communication services.

The report did not disclose the proposed site for the tower nor the time needed for the completion of the tower. But, it said that the building is likely to be built nearby the Amra Hotel area, which is suitable for communication services and needs. The report did not include an estimate of the tower's building costs nor did it say from where the financing would come.

AOAS to host pan-Arab talks on administrative reforms

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day pan-Arab meeting on administrative development and reform in the Arab World will be held at the Arab Organisation for Administrative Studies (AOAS) headquarters in Amman, Jordan, from Feb. 15 to 19.

The meeting, which is part of the AOAS's administrative development and reform programme, will be held in Amman, Jordan, from Feb. 15 to 19. The meeting aims at defining administrative challenges in the Arab World, revising and evaluating administrative development and reform in Arab countries and comparing them with similar experiences in developed and developing countries.

The conclusions of the meeting are expected to help enrich Arab experiences in the fields of employment policies, organisation and administrative procedures in relation to the economic and social environment.

This meeting will pave the way for the 20th international conference on administrative sciences which will be held here in September at the invitation of the AOAS. Studies and research papers discussed during this meeting will be contained in a book on general administration in the Arab World to be issued by the AOAS for reference at the 20th conference.

Ministry plans to establish national standardisation centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade is planning to set up a national centre for specifications and standardisation at a total cost of JD 13.3 million. The project aims to form a central body which will work in accordance with special legislation to draw up policies and legislation, specifications, standards and trade marks for all goods and services.

The project, estimated to cost JD 1.25 million, will also involve conducting economic feasibility studies for projects included in the five-year development plan and for other development projects which might arise during the plan period.

This centre will also be in charge of setting up, uniting and accrediting laboratories, research and quality control centres as well as the adopted methods of analysis. The centre will also be entrusted with training and qualifying the

necessary technical cadres who will work at these laboratories.

The ministry is also planning to prepare an industrial studies and research project on the investment opportunities available in Jordan. This will be done through periodical sectoral studies on industries as well as primary feasibility studies for new industrial projects.

Iraq says offensive crushed

(Continued from page 1)

discussed Tuesday's developments by phone with President Hussein.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt also contacted President Hussein on Monday to inquire about the situation, INA said.

Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat also called President Hussein. Palestinian sources told Reuters.

INA reported on Tuesday that the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, as well as all Arab ambassadors in Baghdad for separate meetings Monday night to inform them of the latest warfront developments.

The report said Mr. Aziz also sent a letter to the current Security Council chairman stating that the "Iraqi armed forces have bravely confronted the Iranian aggression," adding that the situation was brought under control.

Mr. Aziz also stated that his government "believes the time has come for the Security Council to take serious action on the situation which threatens peace and security in the region."

Mr. Aziz sent a message to Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi seeking an urgent meeting of the League's follow-up committee assigned to developments in the five-year-old Gulf war, the agency said.

The Qatari News Agency reported that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal and the other members of Arab League committee would meet in Baghdad on Wednesday in response to the Iraqi call.

Reporting from Tunis, headquarters of the Arab League, the Qatari agency said that Mr. Klibi and Tunisian Foreign Minister Ali Bajji Qaid Al Sebsi would head for the Iraqi capital the morning of the meeting.

In Amman, the people's committee for supporting the Iraqi people's struggle issued a statement lauding the heroic stand of the defenders of the Basra and Shatt Al Arab area against the Iranian aggression. The statement called on all Arab leaders to take practical steps in implementing the Arab League Pact and extend all possible help to Iraq.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday addresses a meeting in Karak, reviewing the Karak Governorate's programmes in the 1986-1990 five-year plan (Petra photo)

JEA, Saudi university discuss scopes of cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Saudi Arabia have agreed to exchange expertise in the field of research in electric insulators used along high voltage lines in desert and coastal regions.

Agreement was reached during talks between teams from both sides and held at the JEA offices in Amman on Tuesday. According to the agreement, the Saudi university will make an assessment of the work and performance of a Jordanian station which inspects insulators and will study ways of developing the station.

Kayed back from Arab interior ministers' council

AMMAN (Petra) — Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed has returned from a four-day conference in Morocco where the Arab interior ministers council discussed means of bolstering inter-Arab cooperation to combat crime.

In a statement upon returning to Amman from the meeting, the minister said that the Jordanian delegation contributed effectively and constructively towards the success of the conference and held

side talks with Arab delegations. Heads of the Arab delegations voiced their countries' determination to maintain cooperation and coordination in security-related affairs, the minister added.

Mr. Kayed was accompanied to the meeting by a delegation grouping Amman Governor Ali Al Bashir, and a number of senior public security department officers.

Jordan, Iraq sign minutes of civil aviation meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Iraq Tuesday signed minutes of meetings held by civil aviation officials from both countries. The main topic on the agenda of the talks, which opened in Amman on Sunday, centred on promoting air transport cooperation between the Iraqi and Jordanian national airlines.

They also discussed exempting both carriers from paying navigation fees for flights from and to Amman and Baghdad by considering these flights as domestic.

The minutes also call for more efforts to promote cooperation between the two countries in air transport. Both sides agreed to follow up discussions at a later date.

The Jordanian team to the talks was led by Mr. Khaled Mohammad Ali, Civil Aviation Authority director, and Mr. Mohammad Fathi Amin, chairman of the board of directors of the Iraqi Civil Aviation Corporation headed the Iraqi side to the meetings.

Domestic row results in wife sustaining severe burns

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 34-year-old Jordanian housewife, identified only as A.M., has been admitted to the Bashir Hospital suffering severe burns all over her body. The woman charged that her husband A.J.R., aged 35, hit her with a gas heater while he claimed that his wife struck him with the heater and as he tried to defend himself she got burnt.

The police immediately arrested the husband who in turn said that it was his wife who started the fire by hitting him with the stove and as he tried to defend himself, she got caught in the flames. The report which was carried in the daily Arabic newspaper Sawt Al Sha'ah said that the wife's condition was critical.

Cargo, passenger traffic on Aqaba-Nuweibe' land-sea route continues to increase

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 650,000 passengers have made use of the Aqaba-Nuweibe' land-sea route since the opening of the line and up to the end of 1985 and more passengers and Muslim pilgrims are expected to travel via this route during this year, according to Under Secretary of the Ministry of Transport Mu'taz Al Bilbeisi.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Bilbeisi said that the route has achieved its objectives of linking Arab countries and bolstering inter-Arab political, social and economic cooperation.

In 1984, only 400,000 people travelled between the two countries by sea and air and therefore last year's figures marked a 65 per cent increase in traffic over those of the previous year, Mr. Bilbeisi explained.

He said that nearly 18,800 large and small vehicles travelled both ways on this route, registering a 65 per cent increase over 1984 figures. Among these vehicles, Mr. Bilbeisi said, were a total of 1,277 buses carrying tourists. He went on to say that in the first month of this year, nearly 62,000 people used this route in both directions and 200 buses made the trip carrying tourists to visit archaeological sites in Egypt and Jordan.

Goods, cargo

He said that in addition to growth in the number of passengers travelling between the two countries, the quantities of transported goods also increased, registering in some cases 400 per

cent more than earlier figures. The increase in trade exchange, he said, will no doubt help promote inter-Arab economic integration. This year, Mr. Bilbeisi added, the route will be used by Egyptian Muslims on their way to Mecca to perform the annual pilgrimage.

Mr. Bilbeisi's comments were made as Jordanian and Egyptian teams are meeting in Amman to make an assessment of transport operations along the Aqaba-Nuweibe' route. The teams will also discuss the prospect of Egypt joining the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company. The Egyptian team, now in Amman, will be making trips to Aqaba, where they will inspect transport facilities, and to Baghdad where the company's main maintenance workshops are located.

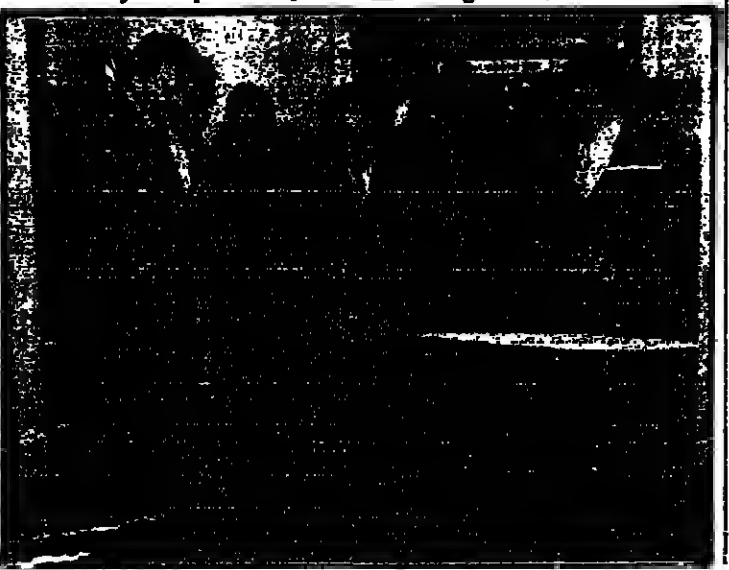
Large variety of Turkish products on display

Former Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Dr. Muwaffaq Al Zo'bi recently opened a permanent exhibition of Turkish products at the Housing Bank Centre, second floor.

The Turkish ambassador to Jordan and his wife visited the exhibition and inspected the different items on display. The exhibition was also visited by Mr. Mohammad Komatch, the commercial advisor at the Turkish embassy, and other embassy staff.

Hundreds of citizens have visited the exhibition which displays more than 200 types of goods like brassware, crystal, glassware, chandeliers, exquisite pieces of furniture, handwoven silk and woolen carpet, leatherwear and different types of leather products in addition to silk clo-

things and other fashions. Also on display are different types of underwear. Visitors were surprised to find usually inexpensive products to buy among the different displayed items.



Prince Hassan calls for introduction of measures to stem urban migration

Crown Prince suggests well-planned programmes, housing projects and more social services for rural areas

KARAK (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called for the introduction of measures which would stem urban migration in Jordan and he noted that 50 per cent of industries and economic activities are located in the central regions of the country.

comprehensive survey of needy people, prior to working out plans for supporting them through creating jobs which would increase their income.

Nsour outlines 5-year plan for Karak

Prince Hassan, who was addressing a meeting in Karak to discuss a five-year plan for the governorate, said that cooperation between the Housing Corporation and ministries should be launched for building new housing projects in rural areas in order to stem the flow of people to cities and to attract citizens to settle in and develop rural regions.

Between 1973 and 1982 Jordan's gross national income was the highest among world nations, according to World Bank reports, and to maintain good progress the country should look to its rural regions and draw up coordinated and well-planned programmes for developing them, Prince Hassan said.

Later, Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour spoke about the five year plan for the governorate and said that it is comprehensive and aims to develop social and economic sectors. Karak Governorate has been divided into 11 development units grouped into six major regions and the plan envisages improving and developing social infrastructure and production sectors, the minister pointed out.

He said that most of the country's population is centred in Amman and Zarqa Governorates and therefore measures should be taken to reverse the migration of people to cities from the rural regions.

In his speech Prince Hassan referred to Mu'tah University which, he said, was contributing towards the development of the local community in southern Jordan by coordinating plans with local industries.

He said that JD 350 million will be invested in projects to be implemented over the coming five years in Karak Governorate. The minister also pointed out that this sum is 10 per cent of the total investments allocated for the five-year plan. The government is keen on exploiting oil shale and has allocated JD 2 million for the project, he continued. It will build a 300-bed hospital in Karak Governorate with help from the European Community, the minister concluded.

Hamzeh opens seminar on public health programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry is striving, through its various plans and programmes, to achieve the goal of providing health for all citizens at a good level by the year 2,000, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said Tuesday. But, he said, although the ministry shoulders the major burden of spreading awareness about health, its programmes should involve the local community and public participation.

Fayez, association presidents discuss draft election law

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akef Al Fayez Tuesday received in his office head of the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), the Jordanian Bar Association and presidents of the unions of Jordanian pharmacists, engineers, vets and writers.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which reported the meeting, said that Mr. Fayez listened to his guests' views regarding the draft election law, which is currently being studied by the house's legal committee. Petra did not elaborate on the meeting.

The minister was addressing an opening session of a seminar on the role of health educators in involving the community in the coming health awareness programmes starting on Feb. 15. The three-day seminar, held at Ammann Hotel in Amman, will address itself to ways of achieving basic health welfare for all citizens and involving the public in planning for health programmes.

The draft law, which was drawn up and forwarded by the cabinet to the Lower House in January, envisages a sweeping overhaul in the electoral process and system in Jordan. Under the draft law, the number of Lower House deputies will be increased to 130, instead of the present 60.

A senior Jordanian official, who attended all the legal committee sessions which discussed the law, told the Jordan Times that the committee would end its discussions on Feb. 4 and added that the law would be debated in the coming two weeks. The committee has introduced some amendments to the law regarding constituencies and deputy representation, the official said, but he did not elaborate.

The minister told the meeting that the Ministry of Health's programmes cannot be implemented without the active participation of the local community and he also said that the public and private sectors should cooperate in order to achieve the aspired goals.

Dr. Hamzeh urged the Ministry of Education to re-examine its programmes and introduce subjects connected with health education. This procedure, he said, could help ensure public involvement in health welfare fields.

Director of the Basic Health Care Department at the Health Ministry, Dr. Suleiman Qub'ain, made a speech at the session explaining the role of Ministry of Health doctors in spreading health awareness among the public and the importance of vaccination campaigns.

European Broadcasting Union begins meetings in Aqaba

AMMAN (Petra) — The television news committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) opened a three-day meeting in Aqaba on Tuesday to discuss the exchange of news and other information material between the EBU and the Arab Broadcasting Union (ABU). The meeting will also discuss tariffs to be charged for the exchange of satellite pictures and films.

Addressing the opening session was Mr. Nasouh Al Majali, the director general of Radio Jordan and Jordan Television, who made a speech stressing the importance of the meeting, the second of its kind to be held in the port city of Aqaba. He said that Jordan attaches great importance to the process of exchanging news between the EBU and other world broadcasting unions.

Since becoming an active member of the ABU in 1970, Jordan Television has played a leading role in building bridges of cooperation between Arab countries and the rest of the world in the field of dispatching and receiving Arab and internationally important events, Mr. Majali said.

He voiced hope that cooperation between the EBU and the ABU will continue through the Arab satellite and through the available technical facilities in order to continue the transmission of news about events that take place in Arab countries.

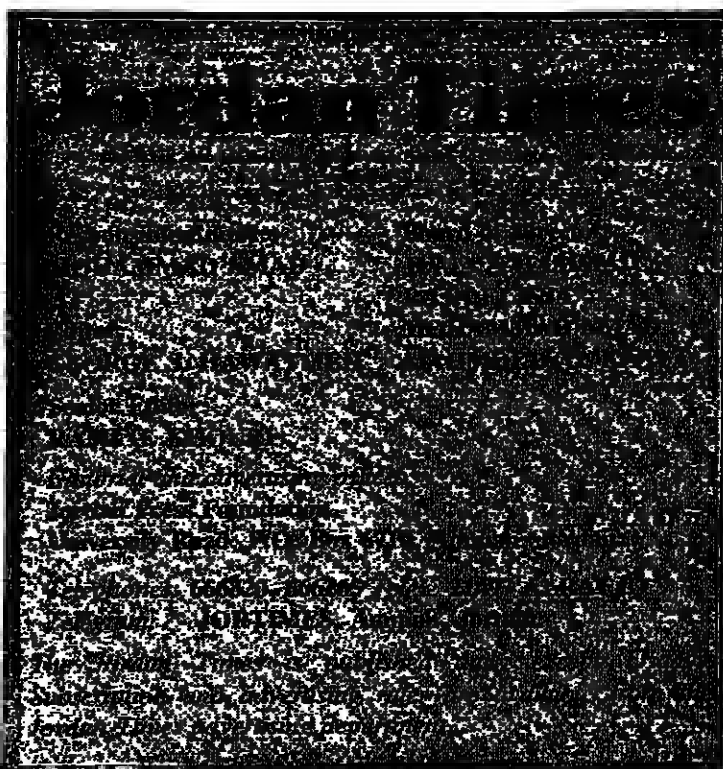
The three-day meeting will discuss a number of topics related to EBU cooperation with ABU and with other regional agencies. Taking part in the meeting are delegates from television stations in Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, Arab countries and news agencies.

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The farce of Shcharansky

AS USUAL in any event involving a Soviet "dissident," especially if he is also a Jew, the attention of the Western media was yesterday centred on Anatoly Shcharansky, the convicted Soviet spy who was released in the East-West spy exchange over Berlin's Gliencke Bridge. Notwithstanding the fact that there were a number of others released, who had equally serious charges levelled against them, the media poured repeated stories of Shcharansky's release, his reunion with his wife, and how he planned to spend a "new honeymoon" after 8 years in jail. Very little was mentioned of those who also secured freedom, either from the Western side or the East bloc. As if not to be outdone by others in capitalising on the event, the Israelis sent a special plane to Frankfurt to pick up Shcharansky to the backdrop of headlines in the international press. Every step that the spy took across Berlin's bridge was described in detail, how he looked, speculating whether he had put on or lost weight, what colours he wore, and how old his beard was. According to all Western media contentions, Shcharansky was "one of the leaders of the Soviet human rights movement in the 1970s and was arrested in March 1977," and no mention was made of how he was convicted of spying by a Soviet espionage court in 1978 and sentenced to 13 years in prison.

From the look of things on Tuesday, we had not heard the last of Shcharansky. We could expect to see thousands of wasted copy on how he arrived in Israel and what a great welcome the Israelis accorded him etc. etc. etc. which reminds us of one thing. Was it fears that Shcharansky might decide to change his mind and opt to fly to the U.S. that prompted Israel to send a special plane with escorts to Frankfurt to ensure that he had no last-minute change of heart? In all probability, yes. No doubt, in the next few days we can expect to be flooded with exclusive interviews with Shcharansky in which he would describe what life was like in the Soviet Union — a "life of oppression, hatred and systematic annihilation," especially if one happens to be Jewish. Of course, we can also be sure that none of the interviewers would ask him to compare his experience as a Soviet Jew with that of the 1.3 million Palestinians living under occupation in the West Bank and Gaza. Or to ask him to comment on the expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland with no television cameras or international journalists to await their forced exit from their ancestral homeland. No interviewer will also bring into focus the fact that while Shcharansky emerged from the Berlin bridge to "freedom from oppression," the Palestinians who crossed the desert to Wadi Araba were facing life in oblivion. While the Soviet spy was assuming a new identity, those expelled Palestinians were forcibly being made to forgo their right to live in their homeland.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Total support for Iraq

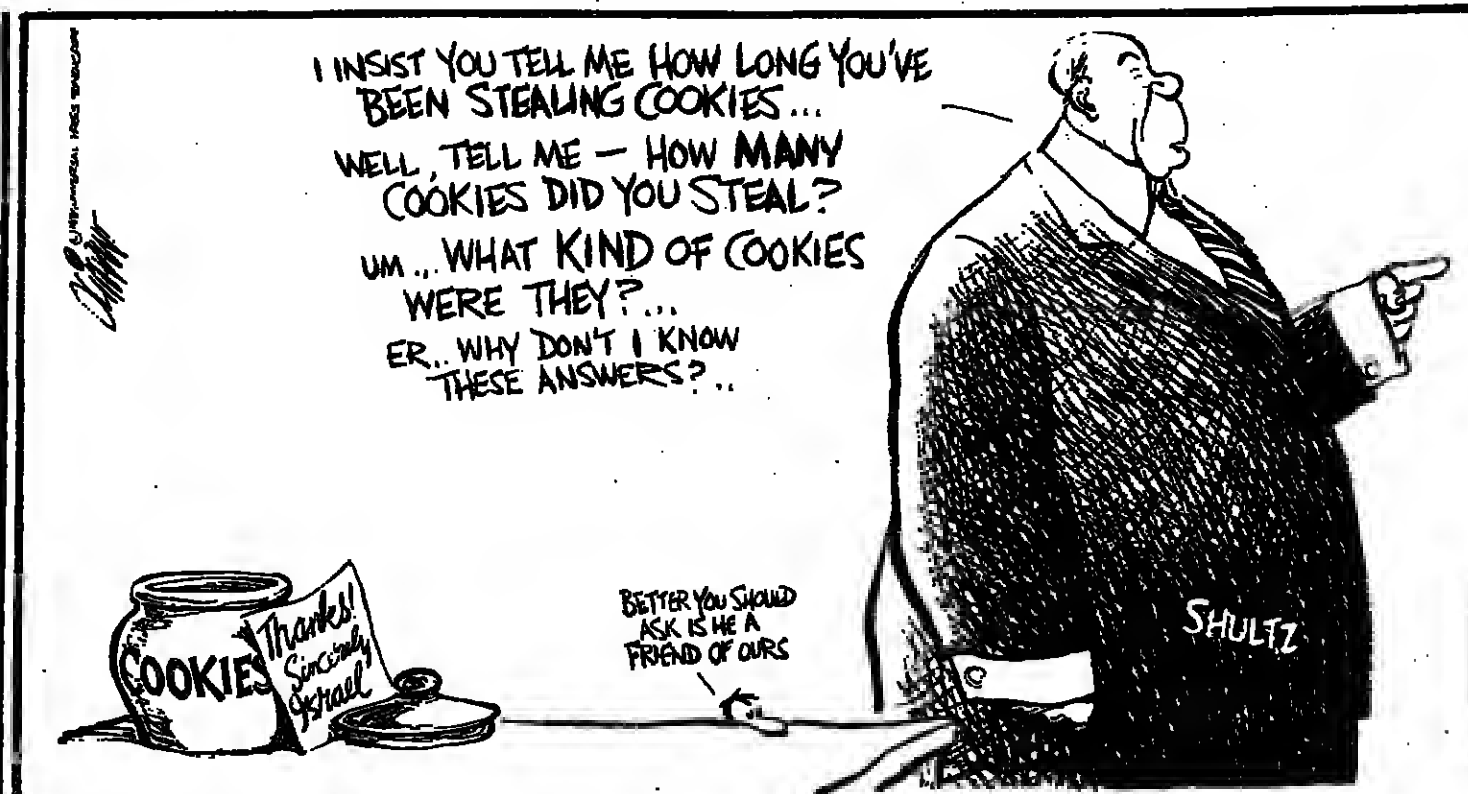
IN a telephone conversation with President Saddam Hussein, King Hussein reiterated Jordan's total support for the Iraqi people in defending their homeland against the Iranian aggression. A statement by Foreign Minister Taher Masi on the same subject also voiced Jordan's backing for the Iraqi armed forces and people in their struggle to repel the aggression, and lauded the Iraqis for the sacrifice they are making to defend the Arab Nation. The Jordanian position is clear and has been reaffirmed more than once, because this country believes the Iraqi people must be supported with all means. The new Iranian offensive is doomed to fail because the whole Arab people of Iraq are behind their leader in the struggle to end aggression and protect the homeland. The Iranian aggressors can by no means achieve their goals and ambitions in our territory because of the will of the Arab Nation to thwart any invasion, and will not be able to make any success against Iraq which stands between them and the rest of the Arab World. Iraq has always played a leading role in abrogating Iranian plots and Iranian acts of aggression on the Arabs, and the new offensive against Iraq will undoubtedly be doomed, and Iraq will again come out victorious.

Al Dustour: Confidence in Iraq

ONCE again the Iranian regime sends thousands of troops to attack Iraq in a desperate move to occupy Arab territory. Over the past six years the Iranians have been attempting to achieve this goal but to no avail. The outcome of the new offensive is a foregone conclusion, and the world will witness another defeat for the Iranians, with thousands of their troops killed or taken prisoners. We have total confidence in Iraq's ability to repel the new aggression which it has long expected and we are certain that the Iraqi armed forces will deal a heavy blow to the enemy. But one should also point out that the Arabs have failed as a nation to come to the help of Iraq, in implementation of the Arab defence pact. Perhaps Jordan's support and help to Iraq over the past six years serves as a good example for the other Arabs to follow. The Arabs should rally to the help of Iraq because it is time they did something to stop the Gulf war and put an end to further bloodshed. All efforts should be made to end this mad war so that Arab resources could be saved and mobilised for regaining our rights and our land in Palestine.

Sawt Al Shaab: Arabs' commitment

THE new Iranian offensive against Iraq came as no surprise to the Arabs because everyone realises the ambitions of the Iranian regime and its enmity towards the Arab Nation. The Iranians have been preparing for this new offensive and the Iraqis knew about them and about their plots and preparations for evil and for aggression. The Iraqis will sooner or later deal a devastating blow to the aggressors who have been dreaming of dominating the whole Gulf region. The rotten thinking of the Iranian leaders, the ruthlessness with which they are treating the Iranian peoples and the killing of thousands of young Iranians in a losing war will no doubt end with serious consequences for the rulers in Tehran. Perhaps this big battle would usher in an end of the Gulf war, and an end to the Tehran regime and its dreams and ambitions in Arab land. The new offensive is not a novelty for Iraq, but the impassive Arab stand towards the war is really frustrating. All the Arab countries are linked by a joint defence pact which has not yet been honoured and respected. It is time that all Arabs joined Iraq in its efforts to repel aggression and end the Iranian dreams for ever.



How far right can Shultz go?

The following article by Wolf Blitzer appeared recently in the Israeli newspaper, the Jerusalem Post, under the headline George Shultz — friend under fire.

U.S. SECRETARY of State George Shultz is facing mounting criticism from rightwing conservative supporters of President Ronald Reagan. They have waged an intense battle in recent months to try to force him out of the administration. Simply put, they believe that he is too "moderate" on many foreign policy issues, especially in connection with the Soviet Union.

For many of these conservatives, who are very loyal to Reagan, it is politically much easier to complain about Shultz than the president, who has consistently supported the secretary's stance on most foreign policy issues. The conservatives say they primarily want Shultz out because of his clearly impressive clout with Reagan and other senior U.S. policymakers, especially the powerful White House chief of staff, Donald Regan. Since succeeding Alexander Haig in June 1982, Shultz has almost always managed to get his way.

The secretary, while understandably sensitive to the criticism from the right wing of the Republican Party, is showing no signs of leaving the State Department. That makes Israeli officials and pro-Israeli supporters in Congress and the American Jewish community quite happy. They are hoping that he remains exactly where he is. The secretary has emerged in recent years as a great friend of Israel.

A decision by Shultz to resign, they said, could be extremely damaging to Israel right now, especially because it would come on the heels of Robert McFarlane's departure as White House national security adviser in December. McFarlane, who almost always sided with Israel's point of view on key decisions involving the Middle East, was replaced by Admiral John Poindexter, a career Naval officer considerably less robust in his sympathy for and attachment to Israel.

Earlier last year, U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, another outstanding supporter of Israel, resigned. Fortunately for Israel, her replacement, Ambassador Vernon Walters, has emerged as another strong friend, even if at a somewhat lower profile.

That Shultz is seen as a champion of Israel is somewhat surprising, given his background with Bechtel, the San Francisco-based engineering consulting firm with huge contracts in Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich Arab states. After his appointment, there were real fears among Israeli officials and their supporters in Washington that the new secretary

would move the U.S. away from Israel.

But that has certainly not occurred. Instead, Shultz has demonstrated a keen sensitivity to Israeli interests — economic, military and diplomatic.

Most recently, U.S. officials said, it was Shultz who played the decisive behind-the-scenes role in trying to quickly repair the damage in American-Israeli relations caused by the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy scandal.

While the wounds have not yet been entirely healed from that sordid affair — and the possibility of revived friction is still real once the grand jury still meeting in Washington files its formal indictments against Pollard and his wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard — the current climate in Washington-Jerusalem relations is almost back to normal. Israeli officials are the first to credit Shultz for this.

Coincidentally, Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens has been in Washington when the Pollard incident initially erupted. Arens, a former defence minister and ambassador to the U.S., had met with Shultz that very first day. Together, they set in motion the events which eventually led to Israel's diplomatically unprecedented decision to allow a high-level delegation from the State Department, the Justice Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Washington to visit Israel. There, they met with the key Israeli intelligence operatives implicated in the affair. They also received all of the stolen documents from Israel.

Shultz, moreover, had been in close personal contact with Prime Minister Shimon Peres throughout that ordeal. "We were very lucky that he was in charge," one Israeli official said. "It could have turned out much worse for us."

The secretary has established a very good personal relationship with Arens, Peres, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and other Israeli leaders. He likes them and they like him. Personal ties have created a new climate of trust between Washington and Jerusalem. Indeed, U.S. and Israeli officials insist that American-Israeli relations are still better today than ever before, despite Pollard.

Without Shultz in the equation, however, the situation could very easily suffer.

It is somewhat ironic that the right-wing conservatives should complain so actively about Shultz since he has probably been the most forceful advocate within the administration in getting tough with terrorism against the U.S. Shultz — much more than Defence Secretary Caspar Wei-

nberger, Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey, and even President Reagan himself — has repeatedly called for a firm U.S. response in dealing with the terrorists and their state sponsors, including the use of military measures. In the process, he has sounded very much like Israeli leaders defending their own actions against Arab terrorists.

"We must be prepared to commit our political, economic and, if necessary, military power when the threat is still manageable and when its prudent use can prevent the threat from growing," Shultz said recently.

"It is absurd to argue that international law prohibits us from capturing terrorists in international waters or air space, from attacking them on the soil of other nations, even for the purpose of rescuing hostages, or from using force against states that support, train and harbour terrorists or guerrillas," he continued. "International law requires no such result. A nation attacked by terrorists is permitted to use force to prevent or preempt future attacks, to seize terrorists or to rescue its citizens when no other means is available."

"The law requires that such actions be necessary and proportionate, but this nation has consistently affirmed the right of states to use force in exercise of their right of individual or collective self-defence."

Addressing a conference on low-intensity warfare, the secretary added: "There is substantial legal authority for the view that a state which supports terrorists or its subversive attacks against another state or which supports or encourages terrorist planning and other activities within its own territory is responsible for such attacks. Such conduct can amount to an ongoing armed aggression against the other state under international law."

This same argument, of course, has often been used by Israeli officials in defending their own preemptive or retaliatory strikes against terrorist targets in Lebanon and elsewhere in the region. This was Israel's basic argument of "legitimate self-defence" after its raid late last year against PLO headquarters in Tunisia.

"Think about the practical and strategic implications of allowing a state to invade responsibility for the acts of its terrorist surrogates," Shultz said. "A nation like Qadhafi's Libya would acquire immunity while carrying on the secret or ambiguous warfare which poses such a threat today to the security and well-being of free nations."

Shultz has not always come down on Israel's side. Like virtually everyone else in the Reagan Administration, he is very supportive of the proposed sale of

advanced anti-aircraft missiles and jet fighters to Jordan. Israel opposes that proposed transaction, which is about to be considered once again by Congress.

But the secretary, even in urging Israel and its friends to go along with the sale, has put forward all sorts of arguments that it is even in Israel's own long-term best national interest to see the U.S. remain the major weapons supplier to Jordan — rather than Britain, France and certainly the Soviet Union. At least the U.S., he and other administration spokesmen have argued, will retain some control over the eventual use of that weaponry.

And strengthening Jordan militarily, they add, will automatically encourage it to enter into direct peace negotiations with Israel. There will be other positive political spinoffs for the U.S. (and Israel) in the region as well, according to the Americans.

Thus, Shultz is known to feel very frustrated by Israel's refusal to consider these arguments in easing its opposition to the proposed sale.

But the secretary understands that no Israeli government can easily be seen domestically as accepting U.S. weapons sales to Arab countries still in a technical state of war against Israel. The political consequences could be quite severe. Several senior Israeli officials have quietly informed Shultz that they do not really fear the Jordan sale, even if they can't say so in public.

Certainly, a decision by Jordan to enter into direct peace negotiations with Israel would quickly make it easier for Israel and its supporters in Congress and the Jewish community to go along with the administration's sale. But such an immediate break-through is not seen as likely.

In the meantime, Israeli officials are spreading the word that they want Shultz to remain in office. Other pro-Israeli lobbyists with good contacts among the conservatives pressing for Shultz's ouster have sought to temper the anti-Shultz momentum.

The argument of Israel's friends to these conservatives is that since strong U.S. support for Israel is also on the conservative agenda — given Israel's democratic and pro-American orientation and its strategic role in thwarting further Soviet penetration of the Middle East — the right-wingers should stop calling for the secretary's resignation. The conservatives, however, counter that any future secretary, with a clear conservative background, would also support Israel — maybe even more so.

But that argument does not exactly ease Israeli fears. They know Shultz; they also trust and like him. They don't know who would follow.

Arms orchestra plays, but is it in harmony?

By Sidney Weiland
Reuter

LONDON — For the first time since the U.S.-Soviet summit, the entire arms control "orchestra" is in place, tuned up but with no sign yet that it is in harmony.

The four sections were never intended to perform in unison. But officials closely involved agree it would help if they tried.

U.S.-Soviet nuclear and space negotiations in Geneva dominate. But separate meetings on troop reductions, confidence-building measures, and chemical and nuclear tests provide important symphonic accompaniment.

When President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met in Geneva last November, they sought to spur on all the players — to "accelerate" the reaching of "positive results."

But the last section assembled only last week. "The others also have been slow getting started," a senior Western diplomat says.

All the negotiators are straining for an artificial deadline — the next superpower summit, pro-

bably in Washington next autumn, when both sides will want to record at least some progress.

The best hope is for an interim agreement limiting U.S. Cruise and Pershing-2 and Soviet SS-20 intermediate-range (INF) nuclear missiles in Europe.

This is the number one priority for Europeans. INF may also be where superpower positions are closest.

But NATO officials believe even a halfway result would need a much faster pace than has been set in the three weeks since nuclear and space talks resumed.

"Both sides are manoeuvring, pussyfooting around each other," a neutral European analyst says.

Second-best prospect is for revived U.S.-Soviet-British talks on a total nuclear test-ban treaty, suspended since 1980. This would be an outgrowth of a 40-nation U.N.-linked conference on disarmament (CD), which began its 1986 session in Geneva last week.

Washington remains highly suspicious of a treaty that would halt all nuclear testing.

There is some optimism over a

possible part-agreement on military constraints and war-avoidance measures at a conference of 35 states in Stockholm.

The Conference on Disarmament in Europe (CDE), which began its third year on January 28, has its own built-in schedule: It must end on September 19, to report to a pan-European Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSCE), opening in Vienna next November.

The west fears that once enroled with CSCE, arms issues could be held hostage by the Soviet Union because periodic CSCE meetings tend to focus on human rights, a vulnerable flank for Moscow.

Negotiators on East-West military manpower reductions in Europe saw a slight Soviet shift last week. This responded to Western proposals in December at the 12-year conference, also in Vienna, which the west calls MBFR, for Mutual Balanced Force Reductions.

Veteran arms controllers have always said success in one set of

talks could have a spinoff elsewhere. The "mutual reinforcement" theory has resurfaced since the relatively successful summit.

In the West, and among neutrals and non-aligned at CDE and CD, main interest centres on a 15-year catch-all arms scenario announced by Gorbachev on January 15, offering tantalising hints of Soviet concessions but not spelling them out.

U.S. delegates from Geneva told a NATO briefing in Brussels last week that Soviet diplomats were being deliberately vague, stressing Gorbachev's apparent flexibility while withholding detail that would give the West scope for quick counter-proposals.

The Kremlin chief hinted Moscow told a NATO briefing in Brussels last week that Soviet diplomats were being deliberately vague, stressing Gorbachev's apparent flexibility while withholding detail that would give the West scope for quick counter-proposals.

He used terms such as "strict control," "reasonable, verification," "inspections whenever necessary." Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze called it a "non-existent problem."

LETTERS

In U.S. national interests

To the Editor:

THE SUDDEN realisation in Washington that it is essential for the Reagan administration to continue to work with Ferdinand Marcos came as no surprise to those who are familiar with the workings of whoever is in power in the second largest "democracy" in the world. For, it is no secret that the U.S. gives preference to installing and working with those individuals suited to its interests rather than the will of the people.

We could not very well dispute the findings of the Marcos-controlled government apparatus in Manila which could find the controversial head of state re-elected. But we could very well ask the U.S. some questions. Was it not confirmed by a U.S. panel that Marcos owns more than \$250 million in property in the U.S.? Records don't lie, especially when they are supported by pending tax bills of Marcos for over a \$1 million on these properties. Did the U.S. consider the implications of the findings of the panel? And that it is against the national interests of a country to have such a head of state? Was it not American reports, some of which were supported by evidence, that belied Marcos' claims to be "hero" of war? Did the U.S. consider that a person, who could go out of his way to fabricate stories to prove his "heroism," could never do justice to his people? Were there not U.S. observers, headed by a leading figure as its House of Representative Committee on Foreign Affairs Richard Lugar, present in the Philippines during the "election" process and reported large-scale fraud by the ruling clique to ensure that Marcos was reinstalled in power? And that Mr. Lugar's charge was supported by an international team of neutral observers?

Did Washington stop for a second and consider why Marcos had to convene his parliament and postpone the election vote-counting process by 24 hours?

There are a number of more baffling queries for the U.S., if it cares to answer, but as usual we can't expect any true answer. The truth is that the U.S. found, regardless of how Marcos did it, the same old president on the verge of regaining power and consolidating it beyond the reaches of the Filipino national will or international pressure. The most logical step for the U.S. was to go along with him as if nothing has happened. Of course, it serves American "strategic" interests of maintaining bases in the Philippines and much more. But, we, if we listen carefully, could hear the groans from the graves of the founding fathers of the United States of America over what Washington is doing to violate the same lofty principles of human rights, liberation, freedom and escape from oppression that the great nation was founded on.

Miguel D. Pereira
Amman-Jordan.

Democratic dispute

To the Editor,

THIS HAS reference to an article written by Rev. Musa Adeli which appeared in the Feb. 4 issue of your widely read paper.

I am glad to know that my friend Rev. Musa has at last visited the Philippines and stayed there for four days. However, I wish he had stayed longer so he could have seen more of the country of the Filipinos whom he had been helping here in Jordan.

As I understood from his article, Rev. Musa went to the Philippines to see the work of "Caritas" there, as the director of "Caritas" here in Jordan. I presume that "Caritas" is a sort of a religious — charitable institution or organisation involved in helping poor people. I am glad he was able to see part of the work of "Caritas" — Philippines which is apparently involved in the Biblical mission of "loving thy neighbour." However, more than half of Rev. Musa's article was not about the work of "Caritas". Again, the Bible says: "render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."

Anyway, the Filipinos are living in a democratic country, enjoying all the freedom in a free society, are free to do or say anything, even against the president of the republic and certainly, in addition to the warmth of our hospitality, we give our visitors the same freedom to do or say anything, even if it hurts sometimes.

Proof of our democracy and freedom: people belonging to the opposition party, foreign journalists, ordinary people, visitors, "religious" people, etc., have been saying so many things against the president of the Philippines who happens to be a candidate for re-election. (He voluntarily cut short his term of office which would have expired in 1987 to submit himself to the popular mandate of the Filipino people in the so-called "snap election"). I wonder whether in some countries people can openly castigate the head of state and get away with it. In the Philippines, nobody is being jailed or deported or barred from entering the country for saying things against our president.

Going back to Rev. Musa's article. Many of the religious sects in the Philippines, including some members of the Roman Catholic church, are being accused of interfering in the affairs of the state and violating the constitution of the country which provides for the separation of the church and the state. Could it be possible that one or two of these "religious" people fed Rev. Musa all the information he included in his article. You see, I doubt that one who stays in our country for only four short days could know so much about our country and our people, all of 7,107 islands and 54 million souls — even if they are the so-called 72-hours "supermen" who consider themselves authorities on the Philippines after a three-day stay.

According to the latest issue of "Asia-Week", a prestigious weekly magazine in Asia, around 1.5 million Filipinos are Muslims. This is around 3 per cent of 54 million, not 14 per cent. Actually, according to latest statistics, the Philippine population of 54 million is 90 per cent Christian; 80 per cent of which are Roman Catholics; 20 per cent are Protestants, Iglesia Ni Cristo, etc.; and the rest are Muslims, Hindus, Taoists, Buddhists, etc. As to the "Church", perhaps Rev. Musa is referring to the Roman Catholic church. There are many other churches in the Philippines, other than the Roman Catholic church; some are Christians such as the several sects of Protestants and other local versions of Christianity such as "Iglesia Ni Cristo", "Aglipayan", etc. I know personally that in many of the above-mentioned non-Roman Catholic churches, people are involved in more than devotional participation.

The homeless people shown to Rev. Musa are the so-called squatters who insist on living in the metropolitan area, squat in government or privately-owned land in violation of the law; and live miserable lives. They are similar to gypsies and other poor miserable people in all the big cities of the world who insist on seeking their fortune in the urban centres. The Philippine government has launched several programmes to help these people. One is called "Balik-Probinsiya" (back to the village) wherein jobless people living in the cities are encouraged to return to their villages and till the soil (and be productive). They are offered free transportation, subsidies, financing, technical assistance, and other incentives to go back to their farms. Many have taken advantage of this programme, but there are many more who insist on staying in the cities. In the villages, there are also other programmes designed to help people become productive. These are the so-called "K.K.K." and "Saring Sikap" — the former refers to a movement for livelihood and progress, and the latter literally means self-initiative. The government gives full support to people who take advantage of these programmes in terms of financing (under liberal terms), technical know-how, marketing, packaging, etc. I wish Rev. Musa had time to visit one of our provinces. If he had done so, he would have seen that people in the provinces or in villages are more self-sufficient, happy and contented for they raise rice, corn, fish, vegetables, poultry and cattle among others, for their needs and for the market — and those who take advantage of government programmes are earning more than their white collar executives brothers in big cities. I have not heard of any Filipino in the villages dying of hunger.

Emmanuel J. Contreras
Charge d'Affaires, A.I.
Amman.

Oil-saving burner invented in China

By Zhao Qinghua

IN the sprawling Capital Iron and Steel Complex in Peking, a train slowly rumbled into the facility's huge furnace house. Standing like soldiers in formation and sending out scorching heat onto two ingot cars were dozens of crimson-colored steel ingots, each two metres tall and five tons in weight.

As the train eased to a stop, an arm reached out from a gantry crane under the building's roof to lift the massive ingots into one of 24 furnaces built into a raised platform, two metres high, and extending from one end of the furnace house to the other.

On the rails nearest to the furnaces an armoured car carrying ingots ran from another furnace to an adjacent primary rolling shop. Ferrous oxide chipped off and dripped from the ingots, exposing their red and gleaming bodies as the car moved along.

To a casual observer, all the furnaces appeared to be the same in shape and use. But deep in furnace no. 13 a new burner — designed to save oil and burn pollution free — was being tested to determine if it is better than the others.

The burner is the invention of Yan Mengqin, a thermal engineer from Changsha in central China. In tests at a dozen industrial facilities Yan's new burner has proven suitable for use with heavy, crude or residue oil in hotblast stoves, metal smelters, industrial boilers and crude oil heaters that

require temperatures ranging from 300 to 1,700 degrees centigrade. According to one estimate, if the new burner is universally applied in China a total of seven million tons of oil could be saved annually and product quality and factory performance increased sharply.

Yan's burner is an internal combustion type. In operation it resembles a giant blow torch. Its core is made of barrels of descending sizes connected by spot welding, leaving a small gap between each barrel. It is unique in the fact that more than 80 per cent of the combustion supporting gas comes through the gaps instead of from the bottom of the flame barrel as in the typical oil burner.

Thus, Yan explained, a strong layer of cooler air is formed on the interior wall of the flame barrel. The cooler air not only takes part in burning but also protects the wall of the barrel from the high heat inside. It takes only a few seconds before a white and pure hot flame forms without emitting black smoke, Yan said. This solves a problem that has long frustrated industrialists in China and abroad, the inventor noted.

The burner test at the Capital Iron and Steel Complex is off to a good start. In the first 20 days of use during October, 5,000 tons of steel ingots were heated with Yan's invention.

"It has been a great success," declared Liu Jinghua, director of the Primary Rolling Mill of the Capital Iron and Steel Complex. One of the furnace operators said, "the flame is just beautiful. It goes straight into the centre of the furnace and is three to four times as long as the old one."

Yan's growing success as an inventor has resulted from years of experimentation, failure, hard work and, now, increasing progress. Last year he became one of the first Chinese inventors to apply for a patent when the Chinese patent law became effective on April 1. In September the China Patent Office announced the registration of his invention and Yan started selling his equipment and knowhow.

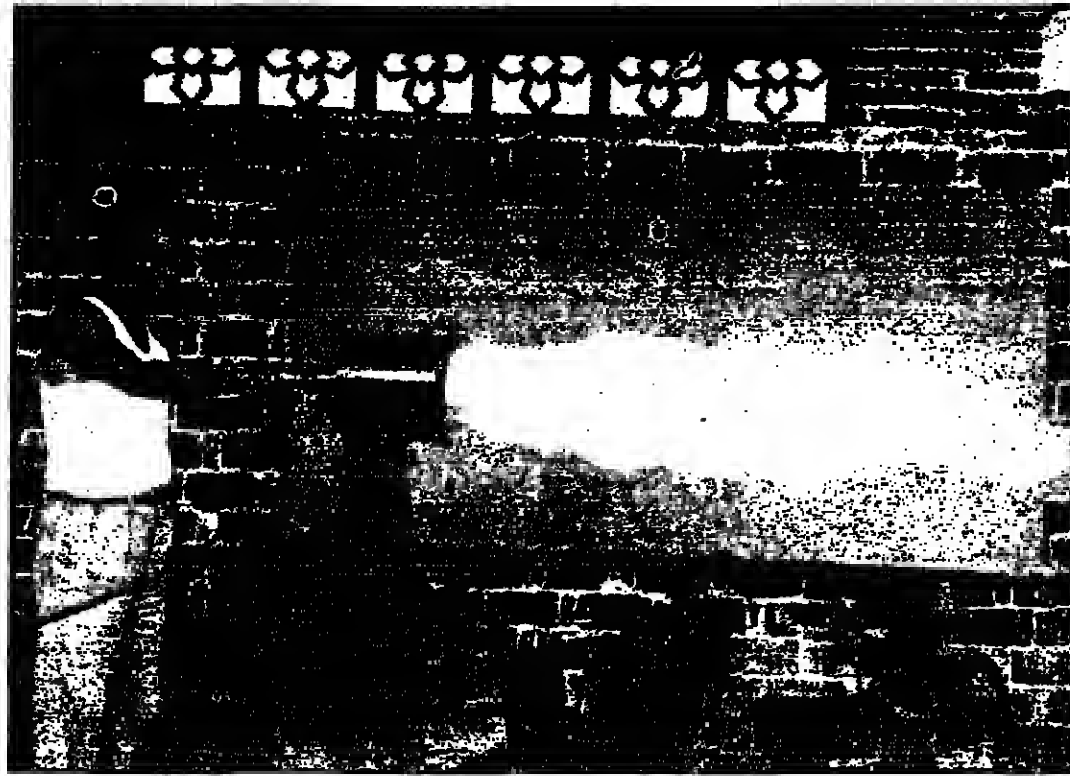
With the growing use of his oil burner, and his other industrial inventions, Yan estimates that he will get more than one million yuan (\$333,000) in profits this year. With this extraordinary fortune in sight, he plans to set up a fund for promoting scientific inventions and furthering his own research.

He also is going to establish two companies in Peking with the help and support of local enterprises and government. One will be a marketing service department for industrial furnace equipment and the other a development centre for energy saving techniques.

A 1947 graduate from the Guizhou Technical School for Aircraft Engines, Yan devoted much of his time to devising better oil burners for industrial use. In 1973, after failing in a project at the Research Institute for Machinery of Hunan province where he had worked for five years, Yan resigned.

He decided to go to small collective-owned factories to try out his invention. Finally in 1980 his burner experiments at a village foundry produced the desired effects and a prototype was built. It won approval from an appraisal meeting sponsored by the Changsha Municipal Science Committee and the Economic Commission of Hunan province.

The Changsha Pigment Plant in Hunan province and the Zhongjiakou Detergent Factory in Hebei province have installed diesel oil burners supplied by Yan to directly bake bithopone and detergent. In about six months of use, the devices helped each factory earn an average 80,000 yuan profit each month.



Yan Mengqin demonstrates his highly efficient oil-saving burner which he has invented and installed in a number of factories in China.

Another of his inventions "a high speed aluminum smelter" has been adopted by five factories. When matched with an oil-burner he has invented, the smelter has cut oil and electricity use in half in some cases.

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Critics fret over U.S. export of television violence

By Jacqueline Frank

WASHINGTON — Critics of violence on television are citing America's role as a global exporter of televised mayhem in their crusade against blood-soaked entertainment.

"Violence is an exportable commodity, it travels so much better than humour," says George Gerbner, dean of Pennsylvania University's School of Communications, who also notes it is far cheaper to import TV shows than produce them.

Hoping to influence producers, the U.S. Congress or the international viewing public, groups like the International Coalition Against Violent Entertainment (ICAVE) report that the United States now distributes 70 per cent of all the violent programmes circulating in the world.

The coalition — with chapters in Australia, Britain, Canada, West Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Thailand and the United States — says 54 per cent of current evening "prime time" shows in America have violent themes and another seven per cent are "high in emotional violence."

It rated "Lady Blue" worst with 50 acts of violence an hour — every punch or shot constituting an act — followed by "The A-Team" (49), "Hunter" (48) and "Miami Vice" (35).

ICAVE calculates that the average television policeman shoots his gun 800 times more often than the average U.S. big city policeman in real life, who is usually under constraints to avoid deadly force if possible.

Thomas Radecki, head of ICAVE's U.S. chapter, notes that many countries routinely restrict the imports of dangerous products, such as firearms.

"It should be important at least to inform people that television can be a dangerous import," he said in an interview. His group is especially concerned about the export of violent shows to places where real bloodshed is already high.

"We are pumping intense war fantasies out to people on the battlefields," he said. "It is not a healthy idea."

The television networks, producers and their supporters say research into the effects of filmed violence is inconclusive at best and that the real issues are ones of popular taste and censorship, not social damage.

ABC television spokeswoman Veronica Pollard said violence on her network was never gratuitous or glorified.

She cited one study that concluded: "In the careful assessment of hundreds of violent offenders, all of whom grew up with a television set in their home, we have never found one person whose criminal career was caused by TV viewing."

But a growing number of critics, including some medical groups, have lined up on the other side.

A policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics said: "Repeated exposure to violence promotes a proclivity to violence and a passive response to its practice."

Dr. Arnold Kahn, administrative director of the American Psychological Association, agreed that no single study is conclusive. But he added: "It's the hundreds of studies done over the years" that make the case against violent television.

Kahn said it was thought in the 1950s and '60s that viewing television violence had a purifying effect.

"That's been pretty much discredited," he commented. "Watching violence does not purge one of violent feelings."

Dr. Benjamin Spock, the pediatrician who helped rear two generations with his book "Baby and Child Care," said in a telephone interview "every time a child or an adult watches violence they become desensitized to a slight degree."

Spock said he was shocked at the lack of programmes suitable for school-age children — a cause that has united several pressure groups into a drive to force the major networks to show at least seven hours a week of children's shows.

Supporters of the move say that average American children aged two to 12 years watch about 25 hours of television per week, while surveys show the average station has only four and a half hours of programmes the critics consider both non-violent and suitable for children.

The National Institute of Mental Health says that by the time the average American reaches adulthood, he will have seen 15,000 hours of television — more time than spent in any other single activity except sleeping.

Another potential vehicle for legislative reform of U.S. television is a proposal by Senator Paul Simon of Illinois that would require networks to precede violent shows with a warning notice that alerts parents.

Simon got nowhere with a similar bill two years ago but may try again because efforts to interest broadcasters in issuing voluntary warning labels have also gone nowhere.

Despite broadcasters' resistance to reform proposals, there are signs the chorus of complaint may bring change.

"I've grown frustrated with programmes that have little to do with emotion and lots to do with meaningless action sequences," ABC entertainment president Brandon Stoddard said recently. "I'd like to see a schedule that emphasises the behaviour of human beings more than car chases."

West picks up Japanese computer challenge

The Japanese have a long-range research programme in quest of the fifth-generation computer. Britain and the US are moving along the same path but, says David Fishlock, are responding differently to the challenge.

LONDON — Britain and the U.S. have responded differently to the challenge posed by the Japanese with their long-range research programme in quest of the fifth-generation computer.

Each response is novel for the nation concerned. But they share a common objective and a common desire to transfer the discoveries from laboratory to factory as swiftly and efficiently as possible.

The Japanese challenge presumes that a new generation of computers will emerge in the 1990s to succeed those based successfully on vacuum tubes (valves), transistors, integrated circuits (chips) and very large scale integration (VLSI) of microelectronic components.

It builds on earlier and evidently successful collaborations in "pre-competitive research" — research and development preceding any specification of a new product — between leading Japanese electronics companies, fostered by government, leading to new chips and VLSI.

ICOT, the Institute for New Generation Computing Technology, was announced in 1981. Its laboratories in Tokyo have a block diagram of a conceptual fifth-generation computer, at which its £330 million (\$455 million) programme is aimed, pinned up for inspiration. ICOT does software research in-house and contracts out the hardware research.

Both Western responses came in 1983. First, in January, was the U.S. response, a company called Microelectronics and Computer Technology Corporation (MCC) of Austin, Texas, founded by a group of competing computer and high-technology firms which had agreed, for the first time in the U.S., to pool cash for a programme of pre-competitive research.

This research company develops tools and technology which may help its 21 shareholders develop their own fifth-generation computers and related products. Its research is unclassified — it has undertaken no government contracts. And the results are wholly owned by MCC on behalf of its shareholders.

MCC firmly denies it is developing a super computer. It cannot, under U.S. anti-trust law. To survive at all it must tread gingerly here, but has been helped by legislation in 1984 which has also encouraged other research partnerships in the U.S.

Its shareholders include Control Data — the chairman of which, William Norris, proposed the idea — Digital Equipment, laugh; taxpayers are footing the bill for it. During a three-hour course at the government's Western Executive Seminar Centre here, Mr. Budzynski teaches top U.S. government workers how to accept with equanimity the insults and injuries of bureaucratic life. Among the secrets disclosed: the art of warming up cold, clammy hands, and a two-minute drill called "Restroom Relaxation."

Mr. Budzynski's stress-management course is a small part of the two-week seminar for government workers, but it could be the most timely. As U.S. budget woes deepen, stress in the federal work force rises. Many government workers believe that they will bear the brunt of a new law requiring a balanced budget by 1991.

"People hear that this will be cut, that will be cut, that retirement will be changed," says Thomas Strange, a psychologist with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management in Washington. "There is a general feeling that things are going down the tubes. Some workers fear that budget cuts will cost them their jobs."

Stress in the workplace

Within the government, all agencies are required to have counselors to deal with drug, alcohol and emotional problems. In recent years, the focus has been increasingly on stress in the workplace. Many agencies have held at least one stress-management workshop, and some, such as the General Accounting Office, conduct a number each year. Some counselors have been surprised at the strong response. At the U.S. Information Agency, for example, a recent workshop drew more than 40 people — twice the number expected.

"Concern is mounting," says Patricia Webbink, a Bethesda, Md., psychologist who works with federal workers.

Many government workers feel that the White House has been hostile toward them in both the Carter and Reagan administrations, and their morale has suffered as a result. "In the time that I've worked for the federal government," grumbles Joseph Galda, the branch chief of water permits for the Environmental Protection Agency in Philadelphia, "we haven't had a president who acted like the leader of federal workers."

Layoffs recalled

The nadir, everyone agrees, was in the first two years of the Reagan administration, when more than 10,000 government employees were laid off. "You could almost see the blood in the streets," recalls Lynn Bralier, the director of the Stress/Health Management Centre in Washington.

But other strains result from the nature of Washington itself. "People's identities get so bound up in what they do," says Nancy Pentz, an employee counselor at the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, "that they forget that they are people, parents and lovers."

In his stress-management class here, Mr. Budzynski explains stress's toll and suggests ways to limit the body's physical response to it. That is where Restroom Relaxation comes in. During particularly difficult meetings, Mr. Budzynski says, a bureaucrat should excuse himself, run to the restroom, sit in a stall, loosen his tie and bend over, stretching the muscles in his neck and back. He will be calm as a cucumber when he returns, Mr. Budzynski promises — Wall Street Journal.

Uncle Sam believes message about mom helps nerves

By Laurie McGinley

DENVER — Five dozen U.S. government managers sit quietly as a tape, recording fills the conference room with the sound of a mountain stream. A voice urges them to breathe deeply, to slacken their jaws, to relax.

They don't realise it, but they are being bombarded by subliminal messages too faint to be heard on a conscious level: "I am calm," "I deserve to feel safe" and "Mommy and I are one."

Mommy and I are one? "It gives people a feeling of safety and security," says Thomas Budzynski, an Englewood, Colo., psychologist who made the tape. "It brings back the idea of the womb."

Bureaucratic insults

Welcome to stress management, Uncle Sam-style. Don't

Medical hearing sparks row over childbirth methods in Britain

By Alan Elster

LONDON — A tribunal investigating the alleged incompetence of a leading London obstetrician has sparked a national debate on medical technology in childbirth and a woman's right to choose her method of delivery.

The hearings against Dr. Wendy Savage, 43, are receiving blanket coverage in the British media. A bitter professional split has emerged over the physician's role in childbirth.

Both supporters and opponents of Savage believe the outcome of the tribunal will influence the type of care British women giving birth will receive in future.

The hearings centre on five births in which Savage, an obstetrician at the London Hospital in the capital's decaying East End, is alleged by her superiors to have demonstrated gross incompetence. One baby was stillborn, one died after eight days. The others lived.

The formal complaint against Savage was made by the Uddin family whose baby became ill two days after birth and died six days later. The parents, who are Muslims, refused to allow a post-mortem to establish the reasons for death.

Another baby died in her 15-year-old mother's womb after 38 weeks gestation. Savage is accused of not noticing that the baby was not growing properly.

The other three mothers say they were satisfied with the treatment they received. In all five cases, Savage is charged with endangering the unborn child by allowing natural labour to proceed for too long where other doctors would have ordered a caesarean section.

Savage's supporters say she is being victimised by a male-dominated hospital hierarchy partly because of her outspoken feminism and left-wing views.

"I think I've been suspended for my approach to the management of labour. If I'm found guilty, it will have a very bad effect on obstetrics as a whole and limit the choices women have in the way they want to deliver their babies," Savage said in a recent interview.

The rate of caesarean sections in Britain has doubled in the past 10 years and is now the highest in Europe. Over 10 per cent of British babies are delivered by this method. In the United States, the figure stands at 21 per cent.

Savage believes that all mothers who wish to attempt to deliver naturally should be given an opportunity. Only if this proves impossible or dangerous should a caesarean be ordered.

Some of her opponents argue that all breech (feet first) births should be delivered by caesarean and that labour should never exceed 12 hours.

They argue that the increase in the number of caesareans has reduced the death rate among newborns in the first week of life from about 20 to 12 per thousand in the past decade.

But caesareans increase risk to the mother, and are the biggest single cause of maternal death during childbirth. "Women who are delivered by

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UEFA: Latest fan violence at Liverpool 'will not help at all'

LONDON (R) — Hopes of an early return to European competition by English clubs have been badly dented by the incident at Liverpool on Sunday when a blinding irritant was sprayed at fans and players.

A spokesman for the European Football Union confirmed in Zurich Tuesday that such an event "will not help at all" when the ban on English clubs is reviewed.

More than 20 people were left spluttering or temporarily blinded after a hooligan squirted a spray loaded with irritant at Manchester United players and fans. One 12-year-old boy was taken to hospital and United's Clayton Blackmore had to be left out of the game after being blinded for a short while.

Earlier, missiles and a brick had been thrown at the United coach as he headed for the ground.

During the game United manager Ron Atkinson and chairman Martin Edwards were subjected to a hail of abuse as they sat in the grandstand.

Edwards commented later: "Despite the Brussels tragedy with 39 lives lost I could not see an ounce of remorse among the spectators."

Writing in Tuesday's London Daily Mirror, Atkinson said: "There seems to be something really sinister threatening the place and if I had my way I wouldn't go back there until it was sorted out."

"Little or nothing seems to have been learned from the Brussels tragedy as far as the hooligan element is concerned."

The English Football Association (F.A.) has asked both clubs for a report on what happened before the game, which ended in a 1-1 draw.

Until they receive the reports

they remain non-committal. A spokesman at their London headquarters said Tuesday they would not consider any action until they heard from the clubs.

But UEFA Disciplinary Committee spokesman Rene Eberle said in Zurich: "We know about this. While this is really the concern of the English F.A. We are closely following everything that is going on the football scene there."

"Such incidents will, of course, not help at all when the executive committee eventually reviews the situation."

English clubs are under an indefinite ban from European competition following the riot at the European Cup final in Brussels last May. Liverpool fans were held largely responsible for the disturbance which resulted in the 39 deaths.

Even when the ban is lifted, Liverpool cannot play in Europe for the following three seasons in which they qualify.

FIFA suspends Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — The Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) has suspended Kuwait's membership and given it 15 days in which to hold elections for a new board for the Kuwait Football Association (KFA).

A KFA spokesman said Monday night the world football governing body announced its decision in a telex it sent to Kuwaiti football chiefs. The decision follows investigations by a FIFA legal committee into what FIFA says are Kuwaiti violations of its regulations.

FIFA banned Kuwait from all international soccer contests last month amid turmoil in the local administration of the game, which has its roots in alleged misuse of state funds.

A long-running row of alleged financial and administrative irregularities in the KFA led Social Affairs Minister Khaled Al Jumelan to replace the entire KFA board last November. The new board was forced to enlist foreign referees last month to break a five-week sympathy strike by local officials.

Jumelan Monday night urged FIFA to reconsider its decision and said the suspension was "not fair to Kuwait and should not be ignored."

Crews and sails are still critical to sailing success

FREMANTLE, Australia (R) — Crew skills and sails come before technology as the crucial factors both in the 12-metre Yachting World Championship here and the 1987 America's Cup competition, according to top U.S. yachtsman Buddy Melges.

Melges, skipper of Chicago's Heart of America, which is challenging to compete for the cup, said the fact that three different yachts had won the first three races of the seven-race championship showed the boats were evenly matched.

"What we've seen here is no breakthrough. It has pointed out that crew members still seem to be important on a 12-metre," he told a news conference.

Here to observe his competitors while his syndicate's new yacht is being built, Melges said he was shocked at the tight security and at the lack of sportsmanship in the 12-metre class.

"It doesn't seem to be what I have often looked upon sailing as — as a real sporting event. This is blood and guts, there's no question about it," he said.

"Just about every aspect of an international war is in front of us," he said. Heart of America would abandon the security shield when the \$7 million syndicate

arrives in Fremantle in September to prepare its challenge for the cup, won by Australia II in 1983 after 132 years with the New York Yacht Club.

Team strategist Gary Jobson said he believed the odds were 50-50 that Australia would lose the cup, probably to an American yacht.

The Chicago syndicate plans to take the cup to Lake Michigan. It has secured a court judgement that the lake is an arm of the sea to allow it to compete for the cup.

Jobson said he hoped Chicago could help restore friendly rivalry and that he had been impressed with the openness of the New Zealand team here.

"It's kind of fun the New Zealand crew doesn't conceal their hulls and they're doing pretty good here," Jobson said.

New Zealand's KZ 5 won the first race on February 7, came third in the second race, and its twin KZ 3 came in second in Monday's third race behind Australia III.

Heart of America design team member Jim Gretzky said he was impressed by New Zealand and by second race winner French Kiss. He too said: "I think the game is boiling down to crew work and sails."

'Unification' bout is sought by World Boxing Council champ

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (AP) — World Boxing Council light heavyweight champion J.B. Williamson has challenged World Boxing Association titleholder Marvin Johnson — his former sparring partner — to a unification bout.

"I know Marvin, and I want him," Williamson, 29, said after watching his former Indianapolis stablemate regain the WBA's 79.4 kilogramme title with a seventh-round knockout of Trinidad's Leslie Stewart Sunday.

The victory gave Johnson a 42-5 record with 34 knockouts. "I want to bring the title under one man, me," said Williamson, who now lives in Los Angeles, but came to watch the fight from a ringside seat. "I doubt if it will happen soon. Marvin is becoming an old man and his people will likely want him to hold the title for a while."

Champ Chaney, who began working with both men as teen-

agers here and still manages Johnson, agrees.

"I don't think that (a unification fight) will necessarily happen," he said. "Money is the big factor. I know the people will like it, but it may not be the best thing for us right now."

It depends on how hot they are. If they're both hot, a fight could be worked out."

Chaney doesn't want Johnson, who lost the title in his first defence the last two times he owned the championship, to have a lengthy layoff.

Johnson, who will be 32 in April, admits he's in the twilight of a career that began after he won a bronze medal in the 1972 Olympics.

"I think it's unwise for a man to see his career coming to an end and not make some kind of preparations for after he's had his last fight. Because of that I'm looking at law enforcement," said Johnson.

Uruguay prepares to 'kill' early

By Rene Villegas
Reuter

MONTEVIDEO — Twice world champions Uruguay travel to the World Cup Finals in Mexico after an absence of 12 years hoping to regain their stature as one of the world's top sides.

But the reigning South American champions face the daunting task of qualifying from a first round group widely regarded as the toughest of the finals as they bid to emulate their World Cup triumphs of 1930 and 1950.

The Uruguayans have been drawn in Group E with West Germany, also twice world champions, a Danish team brimming with talent and Scotland, a talented side on their day.

Less than four months from their opening World Cup match against West Germany most of the Uruguayan squad are spread among club sides in Latin America and Europe.

Coach Omar Borrás has said that 16 of the 22-man squad he will name on April 1, when he plans to begin his build-up in earnest, are with foreign clubs.

But he realises club commitments could prevent some of the foreign exiles from joining the squad in good time.

Among those exiles are top stars like Enzo Francescoli, leading scorer in the Argentine league with River Plate and last year voted Argentine Player of the Year, and Atletico De Madrid str-

iker Jorge Da Silva.

Some of Uruguay's leading players have been playing abroad for several years. Others were snapped up by clubs in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Spain and France after Uruguay became the first qualifiers for the Mexico Finals last April behind the hosts and the reigning champions, Italy.

Borrás began his World Cup preparations last week, taking a squad of mainly home-based players to Miami for an international tournament.

Uruguay won, beating Colombian club side Deportivo Cali 2-0 in the final after drawing with America 1-1 in an earlier round robin series. The surprise of the tournament was the 2-0 defeat by Deportivo of Paraguay, who have also qualified for Mexico.

In April Borrás hopes to take the full squad on a tour of Europe where the team will meet club sides in matches the local press has called "informative."

The tour will be followed by one or two matches at home as a taster for the fans who are eagerly awaiting a repeat of Uruguay's victory over Argentina in the first World Cup Final in Montevideo in 1930 or the shock win in Brazil 20 years later.

Prior to their arrival in Mexico, Borrás will take the squad to Colombian capital Bogota, 2,600 metres above sea level, for three weeks to prepare for matches at an altitude similar to that in the fin-

als. Borrás has said the altitude in Mexico is the "fourth enemy" after the group rivals. Uruguay will play two of their first round matches at Neza, a sprawling suburb east of Mexico City, 2,250 metres above sea level.

They meet West Germany at Queretaro, 1,800 metres high, but their Toluca base near the capital is 2,600 metres high.

"I am confident that we can do well," Borrás said. "Other sides may improve as the tournament progresses, but we will start on a high note. We must kill and we're going to kill," he said, using a local term for winning.

But he admitted that all three rivals are strong. "People say West Germany are the big danger, but for me Denmark and Scotland are the danger," Borrás said.

Borrás is making a minute study of Uruguay's first round opponents. He recognises that Denmark have similar problems to Uruguay in that the core of their side is also foreign-based.

"They have a great advantage because they play in some of the world's best teams," he said, citing Michael Landrup and Preben Elkjaer who are with Italian clubs Juventus and Verona respectively, and Soeren Lerby of West Germany's Bayern Munich.

"The Scots cover the field excellently," he said. As for the Germans, he recalled their fine record in previous finals.

Baumann hopes absence makes this swimmer grow stronger

By Paul Radford
Reuter

BONN — A year's self-imposed absence from top competitive swimming has done little to blunt double Olympic champion Alex Baumann's appetite for success.

The 21-year-old Canadian, virtually invincible in the individual medleys for several years, overcame his own doubts with two world-class performances at last weekend's Bonn international meeting.

Baumann's victories in the 200 and 400 metres medleys were remarkable for a swimmer who has been out of action for so long.

His time of one minute 59.03 seconds over the shorter distance has never been beaten, and his 4:13.74 over 400 metres has been bettered only by himself and Hungary's Jozsef Szabo.

His outstanding return to the pool has re-established him as hot favourite for this August's World Championships in Madrid, where he so badly wants to win gold.

Baumann has a string of Olympic, Pan-American and Commonwealth titles to his credit but he has yet to be crowned world champion.

A shoulder injury kept Baumann out of the last championships in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in 1982, where he would have started as clear favourite in both events.

"Obviously, winning the world championships is my main target right now, especially after what happened last time," he told Reuters.

"I've just had what I call a maintenance year. I didn't do too much training because I've been doing so many appearances for sponsors since my Olympic victories."

"But since September I've got down to more serious work and if I can get the training in I think I can still improve. I'll have to because whoever wins in Madrid will need to set a world record to do it."

Baumann said he felt competition was getting fiercer in the medleys and named Szabo and fellow-Hungarian Tamas Darnyi, the European champion, as his main threats.

"When you stand still for a year you must expect other people to catch up," he said.

Baumann's rich North American accent belies his Czechoslovak origins. He was born in Prague, but his parents moved to New Zealand when he was three and then on to Canada. His father was a university professor.

Baumann was brought up in the small mining town of Sudbury, 385 kilometres north of Toronto, where he is a political science student at the Laurentian University.

He took up swimming seriously in 1974 when he went to a national meeting and broke eight Canadian records for under 10s.

"I was really doing everything in those days. I like training all strokes and I feel I'm fairly good at all of them so I went for the individual medley," he said.

Admirers of Baumann's versatility say he is so gifted he can be among the world's best in any discipline but the modest Canadian is not so sure.

"I like breaststroke the best but I don't think I could ever be number one in that even if I trained it full-time. It's too late to find out now anyway," he said.

The medley has certainly brought him plenty of honours. His gold medal triumphs over 200 and 400 metres in Los Angeles brought him two world records to take his tally to five in his career.

His Olympic victories made him

one of Canada's most popular sporting heroes and sponsors rushed to sign him up.

"Last year I just got drained physically and mentally because I was out of town two or three times a week making personal appearances," he said.

"I couldn't get into any rhythm with my training. Now I've blocked off several weeks at a time when I won't make any appearances so that I can prepare properly for the World Championships and the Commonwealth Games."

Baumann, who is still affected occasionally by the injury to his right shoulder which kept him out of the 1982 World Championships, confessed that 12 years' of competitive swimming had taken its toll.

Tar Heels top U.S. college basketball poll

NEW YORK (AP) — North Carolina unanimously remained the no. 1 team in college basketball Tuesday, while neighbour North Carolina State has climbed back into the Associated Press' top twenty for the first time since the second week of the season.

The top-ranked Tar Heels have been first in every poll since the season began. They were unanimous choices twice before losing to Virginia but still remained no. 1 last week.

All 63 sports writers and broadcasters voting in this week's poll tabbed 24-1 North Carolina as the top team. The Tar Heels collected 1,260 points in the balloting, far ahead of the 1,186 for runner-up Duke. The Blue Devils, 22-2, were second in the poll for the second time this season, moving up two spots this week.

North Carolina State, meanwhile, jumped back into the ratings thanks to an upset of Louisville last week. The Wolfpack is 17-6 overall.

Pole vault record falls again, this time at hands of officials

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. athletics officials are changing the world pole vault record even faster than the stars who have raised the mark seven times during the current indoor season.

Officials of the Athletics Congress (TAC) have finally put the latest record height, set by American Billy Olson on Saturday night, at 5.93 metres.

The height is one centimetre better than Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union cleared in a then-record vault only hours earlier in Moscow.

Olson set his mark at a U.S. Olympic Invitational meeting in East Rutherford, New Jersey. An

hour after the meeting ended, officials incorrectly raised his mark to 5.94 metres after a re-measurement of the bar.

TAC records chairman Bob Hersch, who served as the public address announcer at the meeting, tried to set the record straight Monday.

"In the rules it is very clear. If there is a record in the high jump or the pole vault you re-measure the bar, and if the two measurements are different the lower is the official height," Hersch told Reuters at a track writers' luncheon.

"Apparently an official made a mistaken announcement," he

said.

Hersch, who also serves as chairman of the indoor Grand Prix circuit, admitted committing an error of omission himself.

"To tell you the truth, during the meet they handed me the record form and it said 5.94 on it," he said.

"At the time I was literally in the middle of announcing a race. I looked and I said to myself that can't be, but I didn't do anything further about it because I didn't think I had to."

"The rule is so clear I just realised it was a mistake. I never saw the official result sheet, so I didn't think to correct it."

Tennis prodigy wins in pro debut

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP) — The first professional match for 14-year-old tennis prodigy Mary Joe Fernandez wasn't any different from most of her amateur matches, as she beat Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round of the Lipton International Players' Championship tennis tournament.

With the victory Monday, Fernandez assured herself of at least a \$2,000 paycheck from her first

for-pay tournament. The money certainly hasn't gone to her head. "It feels just like it did last year," said Fernandez, who reached the fourth round in this event in 1985. "It's no big deal."

Fernandez can only play to pro tournaments this year because of a recently enacted Women's Tennis Association (WTA) rule against overworking the youngsters on the tour.

Earlier in the day, Ann Hen-

drickson stopped Andrea Jaeger's comeback dream before it could start, beating the former top-10 player 6-7, 6-2, 6-2.

Jaeger, who has slipped from her once lofty perch of no. 3 in the world to 114th while playing only occasionally in the past two years, won the first-set tiebreaker 8-6.

From 2-2 in the second set, Hendrickson broke Jaeger's serve four of her next five chances to take the second set and grab a 4-1 lead in the third set.

Jaeger refused to be interviewed after the match and was fined \$500 by the WTA.

In the other early matches involving seeded players, 10th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden downed Eva Laak of West Germany 6-1, 6-2 and 14th-seeded Barbara Potter beat Vicki Nelson-Dunbar 6-3, 6-4 in women's play.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4075/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3972/77	Canadian dollars
	2.3780/90	West German marks
	2.6875/85	Dutch guilders
	2.9930/45	Swiss francs
	48.63/68	Belgian francs
	7.2850/3000	French francs
	1617/1618	Italian lire
	187.35/50	Japanese yen
	7.4865/4935	Swedish crowns
	7.3840/50	Norwegian crowns
	8.7500/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	336.50/337.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed lower on profit-taking after the recent advance but some issues closed above the lows. Dealers said trading was moderately active and noted some concern over lower crude oil prices. The FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was 9.1 down at 1,452.4 having touched a record 1,462.5.

Distillers returned to 615 after 606p awaiting a decision on the possible referral of the bid from Guinness, unmoved at 285p. In lower oils BP lost 13p to 550. ICI was 3p off at 826.

Government bonds steadied at around 1/16 point down. Banks and insurances were off the lows while golds were mixed.

Imperial group ended unchanged at 269 after fluctuating narrowly while Hanson Trust was 2p lower pending a decision on the possible referral of its bid for Imperial. Becham at 348 and GEC at 178 lost 2p apiece while Thorn EMU rose 5p to 422.

Amstrad firmed 48p to 340 after a near three-fold gain in half year profits. MEPC extended Monday's 14p gain by 11p to 323. On Monday it denied weekend press suggestions of having merger talks with Trafalgar House, 2p off at 319. In mixed stores GUS added 20p to 814 on continued hopes of enfranchisement of "A" share holdings, dealers said. Lower banks saw Midland 10p down at 477.

Arab investors play active managerial role on Wall Street

Middle East investors are not only interested in taking stakes in U.S. securities firms — they are also beginning to play an active role in management on Wall Street.

In October 1985, an Arab group led by Mr. Hikmat Nashashibi — former chief executive of London-based Al Mal International — took a 39.7 per cent stake in Boston-based broker Moseley, Hallgarten, Estabrook & Weeden Holding Corporation.

Since then, the group has started to exert its influence. Mr. Nashashibi has become Moseley's deputy chairman — as well as chairman of the key planning and strategy committee; Mr. Omar Kassem — Mr. Nashashibi's deputy at Al Mal — was elected president and chief executive in late January, and Mr. Basil Al Nakib, a former colleague of Mr. Nashashibi at Kuwait International Investment Company, has joined the board.

It is the first time Arab investors in this type of venture have adopted such a personal approach to management. It is a move that Mr. Nashashibi believes has paid off — and one he believes the market approves of.

The group acquired Moseley for \$12 million, in what Mr. Nashashibi describes as "the cheapest buy on Wall Street." The shares were bought for just below \$2; they recently traded for roughly \$5.50.

Mr. Nashashibi attributes the rise to two factors: First, market approval of the new structure and, second, fourth-quarter 1985 results, which showed record profits of \$2.7 million. In the third quarter, Moseley incurred a \$10.8 million loss, representing the final liquidation of inventories associated with U.S. government securities.

Mr. Nashashibi emphasises the importance of the U.S. in the coming era of deregulation — and the value of having a strong presence there. "When the whole world becomes one market, the largest (market) becomes the centre, and Wall Street is the capital of capitals," he says — Middle East Economic Digest (MEED).

Saudi Arabia considers setting up toy factories

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia, a hot market for toys, is planning for its first local manufacture of the commodity, industry officials disclosed Monday.

The ministries of commerce and industry have undertaken studies to determine the feasibility of manufacturing toys within the kingdom, according to these officials.

One licence has been issued for a factory in Dammam on the eastern coast of the kingdom, with an estimated output of 32,000 toys. Three other plants in the capital

One retailer claims the extra expense is due to the high cost of shipping toys to Saudi Arabia. The customs duty levied on toys range from 10 to 50 per cent.

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NEW DELHI (R) — Mass protests against unpopular price increases for essential commodities spread to Calcutta and surrounding areas Tuesday, paralysing transport, industry and commerce in India's largest city. The opposition party-led demonstrations, a stinging rebuke to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government, followed a day of protests in New Delhi Monday, in which more than 1,300 people were arrested.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) News Agency also reported protests in the central industrial city Kanpur and in the southern city Madras where 200 people were arrested.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Egypt is gearing for tremendous economic hardships, analysts say

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, hit by a sharp slide in oil prices, a drop in foreign currency earnings and a huge foreign debt, is gearing for an economic crisis, analysts here say.

Government-run newspapers have begun preparing Egypt's 48 million people for coming hardships, with the mass-circulation daily Al-Akhbar warning in front-page editorials two days running of a financial catastrophe.

"Are we willing to sacrifice to face the difficult economic situation, tighten belts and swallow a hike in prices of essential goods?" asked editor Said Sonbol.

Answering his own question, he added: "It's a temporary sacrifice which we must face seriously for a better future."

Economy Minister Sultan Abu

Ali said last week Egypt would have to cut imports and oil consumption, and boost exports. "It is going to be bitter but, like medicine, in the end it cures," he said. Egypt imports 60 per cent of its food and the government is burdened by more than \$24 billion in foreign debt.

The slump in oil prices, as well as directly cutting Egypt's oil revenue, has triggered layoffs among the 2.5 million Egyptians working in Gulf states, whose earnings are a vital source of foreign exchange.

Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandil, who last week met Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti of Venezuela as part of a hectic round of contacts between OPEC and non-OPEC producers, said: "The situation has become very critical and Egypt is losing money which it cannot afford."

Egypt, which is not a member of OPEC, last month slashed its 870,000 barrels per day (b/d) oil production by more than 250,000 b/d and reduced its prices by up to \$3 a barrel. Industry sources expect another price cut shortly.

It previously exported 300,000 b/d of crude, accounting for 60 per cent of total export value of some \$4.5 billion.

Lower oil shipments from the Gulf will also cut the number of tankers using the Suez Canal —

thus hitting another key revenue source which brings in some \$900 million a year, officials said.

Another important earier is tourism, but earnings from foreign visitors dropped by 50 per cent in 1985 to \$300 million.

The hijacks last year of an Italian cruise liner, the Achille Lauro, and of an Egyptian airliner in which 60 people died, badly hit bookings for the new tourist season, raising fears of another sharp drop this year, one official said.

Despite a 1985-86 budget deficit forecast at \$5.7 billion, the government has so far failed to lower subsidies on basic foods and commodities which cost it more than \$5 billion annually, bankers noted.

Sudan to postpone devaluation of pound

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan has told the International Monetary Fund (IMF) it intends to postpone a devaluation of the Sudanese pound for four or five months, Finance Minister Sidahmed Tayfour said Monday.

He told senior Sudanese editors it would be best to delay the decision until a new government takes power after April elections, decides on its economic strategy and begins to prepare the 1986/7 budget in June.

Mr. Tayfour said the timing of the devaluation was the present government's only dispute with the IMF, which on Feb. 3 declared Sudan ineligible for further loans because it has failed to pay off arrears of over \$220 million.

The devaluation would be the seventh in six years and Sudanese officials say the previous exchange rate had raised domestic inflation without substantially encouraging exports.

The next government could also resume negotiations with the fund on a new policy package, clearing the way for Sudan's aid donors to clear the IMF arrears, the minister added.

Foreign economists say the IMF and Sudan are also at odds over government borrowing from the banking system, which has already risen to a new target of 285 million pounds (\$114 million) from 200 million (\$80 million) in the budget approved last September.

Authorities suspend campaign against merchants

Meanwhile, Sudanese authorities Monday suspended a campaign against merchants selling illegal imports and gave them two days to submit inventories for any of 10 restricted items on their lists of stock, the chamber of commerce said.

The campaign earlier provoked an unofficial strike by thousands of shopkeepers angered by the brief detention of 56 of their colleagues and the impounding of banned goods from shops of hundreds of others.

The ban covers soap, shoes, furniture, cloth, confectionery, refrigerators, tinned goods, television sets, mineral water and ready-made clothes. The government says the aim is to protect local industry and save scarce foreign currency.

Most of the shopkeepers opened their shops Monday after Interior Minister Abbas Madani threatened to send police to their homes and force them to open for inspection.

Chamber of commerce official Abdul Rahman Al Bashir told an angry meeting of merchants Monday that negotiations would continue with the government on a long term settlement. Many shopkeepers said they were not satisfied the authorities did not intend to make them pay customs duty twice on the restricted goods in their shops.

The government says the items are smuggled while the merchants maintain they buy them from individuals who import them legally for personal use.

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Debtor nations express concern over oil crisis

WASHINGTON (R) — Foreign ministers of Latin American nations Monday expressed concern over the impact of collapsing oil prices as the Cartagena debtor group convened an emergency meeting called by Mexico and Venezuela.

"The situation is very serious. Argentina is concerned and expresses solidarity with the countries affected," Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo told reporters.

Monday's emergency meeting was being attended by foreign ministers from the group's five-nation monitoring committee: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela.

The session came as plunging oil prices created a crisis in Mexico potentially worse than that in August 1982, which touched off the Latin American debt crisis, and threatened to unravel a \$21.2 billion debt accord for Venezuela due to be signed this month.

There has been growing market speculation that unless creditor nations take emergency action, debtors will act unilaterally to limit payments, although ministers Monday would not comment ahead of the meeting except in general terms.

Peru, a Cartagena member, last year unilaterally set a limit on debt payments to commercial banks of 10 per cent of export earnings and suspended loan talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"Events over the last few weeks have shown that the action taken by Peru was the correct one," Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner said.

Officials said the emergency meeting would review events since the Cartagena ministerial conference in Montevideo last December and decide what action to take on the oil situation.

One Argentine official said he did not expect major decisions from the meeting, the first to be held since Montevideo, when the committee was given its brief to monitor developments affecting debtors and recommend action.

Officials said one of the items on the agenda was to define the committee's responsibilities more clearly.

Mexico and Venezuela agreed last month in Cancun to seek contacts with creditor nations and international financial institutions to find ways round the oil price dilemma.

For each \$1 fall in oil prices, both countries lose about \$500 million in income annually.

Mexico sounds creditors on lower interest rates

Meanwhile, Mexico, hit by tumbling oil prices, is sounding out its creditors on a plan to pay substantially lower interest rates of about six per cent on its foreign debt, U.S. officials and bankers said Monday.

Mexico currently pays an interest rate bill of roughly \$10 billion a year, equivalent to approximately 10 per cent, on its \$97 billion foreign debt.

In recent talks with both official creditors and commercial banks, Mexico suggested the idea of a six per cent interest rate limit under schemes variously labelled "interest rate capitalisation" or "rescheduling of interest."

The officials, who asked not to be named, said the Mexicans made the suggestion in a recent approach to the Paris Club of official government creditors and again last week in talks with commercial banks in New York.

Under the plans suggested by Mexico, interest rates charged but not paid would be added to a schedule of loan capital repayments, thereby increasing the country's overall debt but easing the short-term repayment burden.

The officials said they understood the discussions were very general and may not have constituted formal proposals.

Mexico is currently negotiating with the IMF for a roughly \$900 million loan, but officials noted that the global lending agency has yet to send a mission to Mexico City.

Without signs of progress in these talks, any agreement between Mexico and its creditors is thought to be highly unlikely.

Banking and official creditors usually require the IMF's seal of approval on a debtor country's economic plans before they agree to stretch out debt repayments.

A senior U.S. banker on Mexico's bank advisory committee said of the country's request, "I am not sure if it is viable, but the alternative has to be looked at."

He added: "The banks will have to make concessions. I don't know how deep but it will be as much for political reasons as for economic ones."

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will find yourself under excellent influences for getting into all kinds of interesting new plans and arrangements which will bring good results.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Some new situations can be utilized profitably now, but be sure to use a proven system. Make it a point to see different persons.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to be with successful persons who can teach you how to become that way yourself. Improve the relationship with your mate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Spend more time with pals who enjoy the lifestyle that most appeals to you, and you will get ideas for emulating them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A good day to make any changes that you feel are feasible where work or other matters are concerned.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into the amusements you most like and relieve tensions. Some talent you possess can be made to work like a charm.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A new regime at home can establish greater harmony and efficiency there. Try to be more modern.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study how you are operating in the business world and with associates and then improve your routines.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) If you find a more modern method of handling finances, you can mostly improve your lot in life.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very aware of whatever is going on in the world and will be interested in it all. A born pioneer here, but should be taught to be more steadfast, otherwise your progeny is apt to run after one interest or the other and never accomplish much of anything.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

ACROSS

1. Suggestive look
5. "A poem loosely set"
10. White frost
14. Egg on
15. Cornmeal
16. Sour
17. Where to seek
20. Curved curve
21. Unfilled
22. Apple product
23. Excited
24. Charles' dog
28. Certain
32. "A peroxide hair"
33. Roman highway
34. Modern
35. Endure
36. Tiny organism
38. Half a notebook
39. Sex
40. Scarlett's domain
41. Jung's "decipher"
42. Disruptive mate (for 28A)
43. Robert
44. Electric
45. Confess
46. Mable
47. Lovely lady
48. "A poem loosely set"
49. Sex
50. Wise one
51. Characteristic
52. Western VP
53. Disruptive
54. Scarlett's domain
55. Fountain
56. COGNAC
57. Disruptive
58. Confess
59. Mable
60. Lovely lady
61. "A poem loosely set"
62. Sex
63. Wise one
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88. Sex
89. Wise one
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91. Western VP
92. Disruptive
93. Scarlett's domain
94. Fountain
95. COGNAC
96. Disruptive
97. Confess
98. Mable
99. Lovely lady
100. "A poem loosely set"

DOWN

1. Suggestive look
5. "A poem loosely set"
10. White frost
14. Egg on
15. Cornmeal
16. Sour
17. Where to seek
20. Curved curve
21. Unfilled
22. Apple product
23. Excited
24. Charles' dog
28. Certain
32. "A peroxide hair"
33. Roman highway
34. Modern
35. Endure
36. Tiny organism
38. Half a notebook
39. Sex
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99. Lovely lady
100. "A poem loosely set"

Reagan optimistic on Europe missile pact

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said in an interview published Tuesday that he was optimistic the United States and the Soviet Union could reach agreement this year to limit intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The Washington Post also quoted Mr. Reagan as saying he was encouraged by word that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev was no longer demanding that Washington abandon the "Star Wars" programme as part of a European missile pact.

"I'm very hopeful we can come to some agreement," he told the newspaper in the interview.

Sen. Edward Kennedy met Mr. Gorbachev in Moscow last week and said the Soviet leader was no longer linking an agreement on European missiles to the elimination of Star Wars, known officially as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

"This idea of separating out the intermediate-range weapons, this is, we think, a hopeful sign," Mr. Reagan told the Post.

He said it was unclear whether Mr. Gorbachev had changed his mind about linking a missile pact to SDI, a proposed space-based missile shield, or "never intended to be there."

The president cautioned that

other obstacles to an agreement on European missiles still had to be worked out.

While Mr. Gorbachev's Jan. 15 arms proposal dropped Moscow's long-standing demand that the nuclear missiles of Britain and France be counted among U.S. nuclear weapons in Europe, it asked that London and Paris freeze their arsenals at present levels.

"We don't think we're in a position to negotiate for somebody else," Mr. Reagan said.

Another problem he cited was Moscow's failure to include its intermediate-range missiles in Asia as part of an agreement limiting weapons in Europe, as Washington wants.

"These are points that have to be worked out, but I'm just optimistic, since we opened that subject and made some progress on it, that we can achieve that," Mr. Reagan said.

The United States has yet to respond to the latest Gorbachev proposal at the Geneva arms control talks.

Mr. Reagan said he doubted Mr. Gorbachev would want to tie the date for a second U.S.-Soviet summit to progress in arms control talks, as Sen. Kennedy reported last weekend.

"I just can't believe that about him," he said.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev agreed at their meeting in Geneva last year to hold further summits in the United States this year and in the Soviet Union in 1987. Washington wants the 1986 meeting in the summer, while Moscow wants it in the autumn.

The United States Monday urged Moscow to move ahead with setting a date for the second meeting between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev and declared it was ready to make progress at the Geneva arms talks — an apparent Soviet condition for the next summit.

"We believe that preparations for General Secretary Gorbachev's visit to the United States this year should proceed as agreed at last November's meeting," State Department Spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. "Obviously, agreement on a date is part of these preparations and we would like the Soviets to move ahead on this issue."

Sen. Kennedy told a Washington news conference that without specific progress in the Geneva arms negotiations, Mr. Gorbachev "expressed doubt as to whether a second summit should be justified or whether it should be held at all."

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes said Monday the United States was "ready to make progress" at Geneva.

"Our specifics are that progress can be made..." he told reporters. Sen. Kennedy also said Soviet authorities had said that 25 people previously denied permission to leave the Soviet Union would soon be able to emigrate.

Mr. Redman welcomed the Soviet assurance, which he said involved seven Jewish families, three of which had been applying to emigrate to Israel for more than 10 years.

He said overall emigration figures were extremely low, with thousands denied permission to leave the country and tens of thousands of others fearful of applying.



Mrs. Margaret Thatcher

Thatcher marks 11 years as leader

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher marked her 11th anniversary as leader of the British Conservative Party Tuesday amid doubts over her political future.

Aides and close colleagues Monday dismissed speculation that she might be forced to retire and said she planned to lead the ruling party into the next general election.

But a new opinion poll has indicated that the election, which must be held within two years, could result in a humiliating defeat for the Conservatives.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) poll was carried out in four constituencies where the Conservatives gained relatively small majorities in the 1983 election.

It indicated the Conservatives would lose all four seats and that, on a nationwide basis, the opposition Labour Party would emerge victorious.

The poll reflected the damage done to the Thatcher government by the crisis over the future of the Westland helicopter company that led two ministers to resign last month.

Of 2,445 voters polled, 71 per cent said they doubted the government's honesty. A majority — 47 as against 44 per cent — also thought it was inefficient.

There was comfort for Mrs. Thatcher, however, in a separate poll carried out among Conservative parliamentarians by Independent Television News (ITN).

Prosecutor offers to drop Walesa slander charges

GDANSK, Poland (R) — A Polish prosecutor told the trial of Solidarity leader Lech Walesa Tuesday that slander charges against him could be dropped if he made a statement which would satisfy electoral officials who brought the complaint.

Western reporters said Walesa immediately told the Gdansk regional court: "My intention was not to slander anyone, not to degrade anyone."

Chief Judge Jerzy Lenarcik ordered an adjournment to consider the two statements.

Walesa was jauntily and confident when he appeared for the first trial he has faced since the banned Solidarity free trade union was suppressed under martial law in 1981.

"I feel great and reason will triumph," he told reporters as he entered the court building wearing a grey sweater blazoned with Solidarity badges and a "God and homeland" slogan.

He read a newspaper and filled in a crossword puzzle as he waited for the trial to begin about an hour late due to what a court spokesman described as procedural difficulties.

Walesa is accused of slandering 15 electoral officials by issuing voting estimates which clashed

with government figures during general elections last October. Solidarity urged its supporters to boycott the poll.

The offer of a compromise, expected after senior government officials indicated that the hearing had become an embarrassment, was made by Prosecutor Raymond Blazkowski.

He told the court that if Walesa made a statement that would satisfy the plaintiffs, it would be possible to withdraw the accusation.

The charges, under article 178 of the Polish penal code carry a maximum two-year jail sentence, fine or restriction of liberty, but Western diplomats doubt he will be convicted.

Some even believe the court will drop the case on the first day of its scheduled four-day hearing following signals from senior officials that the government does not wish to pursue the trial.

Walesa was represented in the provincial court by three veteran legal defenders of Solidarity — Jan Olszski, Anna Skowronska and Jacek Taylor.

"This is a typical political trial held against Lech Walesa because he is the head of Solidarity and gave results counted by Solidarity which is not recognised and outlawed," Skowronska said.

Afghan rebels reportedly down 6 aircraft

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghan rebels shot down six military aircraft in two provinces and killed up to 90 Communist troops in attacks on posts around the western town of Herat, Western diplomats reported Tuesday.

They quoted reports received from Afghanistan as saying five planes were shot down and several Afghan and Soviet troops killed around the southern town Ghazni in fighting last month.

A helicopter was downed last week near Herat River in the western province of Ghor, where four Soviets were also killed, they said.

They said a number of Soviets were among 90 troops killed in the Jan. 29 rebel attack on eight military posts around Herat.

The diplomats also reported heavy fighting in the strategic Panjshir Valley and Istalif area north of the capital Kabul and said Kabul hospitals had received many casualties.

continued rocket attacks on Kabul during the past week and their targets had included Soviet military buildings at the airport and the Ministry of Defence.

Up to 11 rockets were fired towards the airport on Wednesday night and four were fired towards the Darul Aman Palace which houses the Defence Ministry on Friday, they said.

Details of damage were unavailable.

Diplomats said the spate of rocket attacks on Kabul since the beginning of this year was similar to attacks in 1984 which unnerved the capital's foreign population and could force Soviet and Afghan troops to try to sweep away the rebels.

24 feared dead in Japanese hotel fire

SHIMODA, Japan (R) — Twenty-four people were feared dead in a blaze which destroyed a wooden hotel annex at a hot springs resort on the Japanese coast early Tuesday.

Neighbours heard three loud bangs after which flames gushed out of the hotel Daitokan. "It was as bright as daytime," said Masakazu Tsuchiya, owner of a nearby hotel.

He told reporters that would-be helpers could do nothing but watch until the building collapsed in a smoking heap.

The hotel was at Atagawa Hot-spring, a popular resort some 130 kilometres south west of Tokyo. The area was full of visitors celebrating a public holiday.

The 10-room wooden building

was one of three making up the hotel. Two employees and a 27-year-old guest and his wife escaped choking from the flames. "We were suffocating," the guest said.

By nightfall, rescuers fighting freezing temperatures and snowfall had recovered 15 bodies, all of them too badly charred to be immediately identified. Police said there was little hope for the rest of the missing.

At a Sushi (raw fish) shop across the road, the owner's wife told reporters she heard loud bangs like the explosion of gas cylinders. "I first thought it was a drunken brawl," she said. "Then I saw a red glow through the (Shoji) paper door. I opened the window and

saw the fire." Her husband, Akira Norimatsu, rushed to the burning building. "In a moment flames were leaping up seven or eight metres high," he said.

An employee of another hotel who vainly tried to extinguish the fire told reporters: "I could not approach the flames because the heat was so strong. I didn't see any of the guests."

Police declined to speculate on reasons for the fire. It was Japan's worst hotel blaze since 1982 when 33 people died at the Hotel New Japan in Tokyo.

The building which burned was constructed in 1939. Guests at the hotel's two adjacent ferro-concrete wings were unharmed.

Cyanide-laced Tylenol suspected in death of woman in New York

NEW YORK (R) — A major supermarket chain Tuesday suspended sales of Tylenol after the death of a young woman who had taken capsules of the painkiller which may have been laced with cyanide, police said.

The new Tylenol scare came three and a half years after seven people in Chicago were killed by Tylenol containing cyanide. Police are still trying to solve those deaths.

Police Commissioner Joseph Fernandez of suburban Yonkers said that Diane Elsoth, 23, died Saturday at the home of friends after taking two Tylenol capsules that may have been tainted with the poison.

Medical examiner Louis Roh determined that the woman died of cyanide poisoning, possibly as a result of taking the Tylenol capsules, police said.

"We have reason to believe that

the cyanide and the Tylenol were introduced to the body at the same time," Fernandez said.

Local television reports said there were signs that three other capsules in the Tylenol bottle were tainted but police would not confirm the report.

The A and P Supermarket chain removed Tylenol, an Aspirin substitute, from the shelves of its 1,000 stores in 26 states throughout the country, Fernandez said.

The lot number in this incident was ADF916, with a May 1987 expiration date.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said this batch of Tylenol has been in distribution since August 1985 "with no incident."

It said "such incidents are invariably local in nature."

Fernandez said no arrests had been made and police did not have any suspects.

He said it was not known when

or where the cyanide had been added to the painkiller capsule.

Johnson and Johnson, the maker of Tylenol, said in a statement that it had "no reason to believe this is not an isolated event."

However, it said that people in the Yonkers-New York area should avoid taking Tylenol, extra strength capsules, sold in 24-capsule containers.

The Chicago Tylenol murders prompted drug manufacturers nationwide to introduce "tamper-proof" packages.

These capsules are sold in triple-sealed packages.

Elsoth bought the drug from an A and P in Bronxville and took the capsules for a headache at 1 a.m. on Saturday.

Police said she was found dead the following afternoon by her boyfriend, who reported it to the police.

Extremists kill leading Sikh moderate

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists shot dead a leading Sikh moderate in Punjab, heightening tension in the state just five days before a showdown between hardliners and moderates over control of the Golden Temple.

Police in the state capital Chandigarh told Reuters gunmen shot Dalip Singh, 55, when he opened his door to them late Monday near Firozpur.

Mr. Singh, a senior member of the ruling Sikh Akali Dal Party, was the third person connected with the party to be shot in less than a week.

He was also the first member of the powerful Sikh Temples Management Committee to be killed by extremists, police said.

The 140-member committee is the equivalent of a Sikh parliament in charge of temples and shrines including the Sikhs' most sacred shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple.

The committee and other mainstream Sikhs are locked in a bitter struggle with militants, whose supporters marched into the temple complex brandishing swords on Jan. 26 and voted at a special meeting to depose the moderate leadership.

Feelings have run high since then throughout the Punjab where at least 16 people have been killed in Sikh-related violence this month alone.

The moderates have scheduled a meeting inside the temple on Sunday to evict the militants, who are seeking a separate Sikh state in Punjab.

Such rarely held meetings take votes on major religious matters and then issue edicts to be followed by all Sikhs.

Snow forces Pope to land in Naples, proceed by train

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Pope John Paul's 16-hour journey home from the sweltering heat of Bombay to a snowbound Rome involved an unexpected detour that shattered the sleepy mood at Naples railway station early Tuesday.

Early morning travellers and down-and-outs sleeping at the station rubbed their eyes in disbelief and rose wearily from wooden benches amid a sudden commotion of waiting police car sirens and flashing cameras.

It was about 4 a.m. when the Pope swept into the run-down station better-known for its pickpockets and delayed trains.

The Air India 707 jet carrying the Pope, his entourage and 73 journalists home from an exhausting 10-day tour of India had been forced to land in Naples because both Rome airports were snowbound.

A thick blanket of snow, as unusual in Rome as a traffic-free street, covered the city and the surrounding area, also preventing cars getting in or out.

So it was that, amid applause and tears from the dazed bystanders, the Pope boarded a hastily formed, three-wagon train pulled by two locomotives at Naples station.

The leader of more than 800 million Roman Catholics sat reading a book in his compartment behind drawn curtains in the middle carriage on the way to Rome's Trastevere station.

There, before climbing into a dark blue Vatican limousine, he told Reuters: "That's how things go. We never would have thought that at the end of this trip to India, we would have found this white landscape in Rome."

Shortly after he left Bombay on an Air India 707, the Pontiff spoke at unusual length with reporters. Such encounters are normally the only chance reporters have to ask the Pope direct questions.

The Pope was asked if he would like to meet Mr. Gorbachev during a visit the Soviet leader is expected to make some time this year at the invitation of the Italian government.

"It is possible. I receive everyone who calls to be received. I received Soviet President and former Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. I receive leaders if they are convinced that it is right and useful to meet the Pope," he said. "The Pope is called for all people."

A Vatican spokesman said during the trip that no contacts had been made for such a visit.

The Pontiff, clearly satisfied by his reception in India and looking fit despite the hectic trip, spoke openly and passionately about the journey, his 29th abroad since his election in 1978.

He paid glowing tribute to India for not allowing itself to slip into dictatorship despite its many social and economic problems. India, he said, had taken many steps forward and had become a "Republic of incomparable dimension" since independence from Britain in

1947. "It is the world's largest republic where the principles of democracy are strictly observed. It might appear tempting to some to resolve India's problems with a dictatorial system. Instead they prefer the other principle, the principle that man is free and that man must have his due liberty even in the political field," Pope John Paul said.

"This is a great lesson from which many Europeans could learn," he added.

He reserved particular praise for Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian nationalist leader.

"I think Gandhi is still alive. He has not only remained alive but he has remained very necessary for us, for our West," the Pope said in an emphatic voice.

The Pope, who quoted Gandhi's words often during the trip, said the life and work of the "little man" had deeply impressed and influenced him.

"He was never a Christian and he never pretended to be one but I have learnt a lot from him. Christians could learn from him how to be Christians. The proof is that I quoted him in my homilies. I learnt a lot from him and I am not ashamed to say this," he added.

At a mass for Christian families in Bombay on Sunday, the Pope used Gandhi's words to support the Roman Catholic Church's ban on artificial birth control.

Asked why he did not speak out more forcefully about birth control in India, the world's second most populous nation where Catholics make up less than two per cent of the population, the Pope said:

"I was not there to reprimand. I was there to evangelise and I evangelised. I have evangelised the Indian church, the Indian people, through the words of Mahatma Gandhi. I have also evangelised the European people through Mahatma Gandhi," he said.

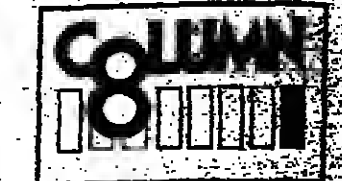
The Pope, who helped to feed the dying and blessed the dead at Mother Teresa's home for the destitute in the teeming slums of Calcutta, said of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner: "For me she will be a saint."

He was short with a reporter who asked him why he had not criticised the Indian caste system more forcefully.

"I came to visit the Catholic Church, not to criticise the population or the Indian tradition and its social aspects. You should know that there are other systems of caste that are not called caste but exist in the world," he said, waving his finger at the reporter.

The Pope said he was pleased that millions of people had turned out to see him in predominantly Hindu India.

"The celebrations were full of people so it was proof that not only the Catholics but the Christians and even Muslims and Hindus were interested. We have very much in common as a religious spirit, especially as a vision of man's destiny and ethical principles," he said.



Farm workers sacked for growing own roses

MOSCOW (R) — A number of workers at a Soviet nursery garden have been sacked for growing their own roses in their spare time, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Tuesday. The workers, near Krasnodar, in southern Russia, became despondent after seeing their collective farm deteriorate through neglect and corruption of successive directors, it said. The directors built their own open houses and gardens while allowing the nursery to fall to near ruin. To keep themselves busy the workers decided to grow their own roses and soon some of them began to make large sums of money by selling them privately, the newspaper said. Pravda said it was the bosses, not the workers, who were to blame, and reported that the directors had also been sacked.

Chinese children slam hypocrisy, greed and waste

PEKING (R) — A group of 11-year-old children has written to the Communist Party demanding waste, gluttony and hypocrisy in Chinese society. The People's Daily Tuesday quoted the letter, written by primary school students in the eastern city of Wuhan, as the party's disciplinary body, saying: "Our teachers, magistrates, radio and television all teach us to be thrifty and simple, but the reality is the exact opposite and getting worse all the time." The children said huge amounts of food were spent on weddings, even the money was borrowed, with some top officials from most families the gluttons. "What family doesn't dare ask them to a wedding or funeral?" They added: "Even death, which should be cheaper as we create rather than bury the dead, costs more than 1,000 yuan (\$310) with a feast and a band. People can't afford even to die now."

Springsteen wins music award

LONDON (R) — American rock star Bruce Springsteen was named best international solo artist at the annual British record industry music awards ceremony. Springsteen, whose album and song "Born in the U.S.A." have been runaway hits, collected three prizes at the American music awards last month. Phil Collins, the singer and solo singer who was formerly a drummer with the group Genesis, was named best British male artist. His No. 1 album "Against All Odds" was named the best British album. Dire Straits was named the best British group and Tears for Fears picked up the award for the best British single with Everybody Wants to Rule the World.

Joan Collins settles lawsuit out of court

LONDON (R) — British-born film star Joan Collins, who plays television's best-loved super-bitch, accepted a big out-of-court payment to settle a long-running contract dispute. Collins, 52, and three others, were suing the film company Brent Walker for breach of contract over royalty payments from the 1978 film "The Stud." The film cost only £300,000 (now \$420,000) to make but grossed millions and earned Collins' legal career. Collins and her co-plaintiffs accepted a £147,233 (\$206,126) payment and an offer from Brent Walker to commission an independent account of the film's profits to determine how much more is due to them.

2,000-year-old fishing boat found

TIBERIAS (R) — A 2,000-year-old fishing boat has been discovered in mud in the Sea of Galilee, an archaeologist has said. Archaeologist Clive Epstein said the eight-metre (26-foot) long wooden vessel was apparently used by fishermen about 100 years before the birth of Jesus Christ. Dry weather this winter exposed the shoreline to rocks and debris of an Israel settlement along the Sea of Galilee spotted the prow of the ship jutting out of the mud. "The boat was preserved because it was in sweet water and full of mud, which caused it to be found," Epstein told Reuters. She and archaeologist Kenneth G. Zuckerman, who was a lecturer in the college, experts said the finding was used to join the boat's plank and girders was built in the first century B.C.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND CHAS STARR
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—In all your books, you have consistently stated that a no trump opening requires you to have guards in at least three suits and no worse than Q-x in the fourth suit. However, in your columns I see more and more opening bids of one no trump with as little as a small doubleton in the fourth suit. Why is that?—J.M., New York City

A.—If you have a balanced hand of 16-18 points and you choose to open one no trump, you have a real problem should partner respond either one or two or one of a suit for which you don't have adequate support.

If partner responds one no trump, a raise to two no trump is an order-bid and a jump to three no trump is overbid. Similarly, should partner respond with a suit at the one-level that you can't support, a rebid of one no trump doesn't nearly do your hand justice while a jump to two no trump is a slight stretch.

These problems can be avoided if you open one no trump on all balanced hands of 16-18 points even if they do contain a low doubleton. Experience has shown that that is the lesser of evils, so modern theory espouses an opening bid of one no trump which shows a guard to three suits and promises nothing about the fourth suit.

Q.—In your columns you always

lead the king from ace-king. However, most of the players at our duplicate club seem to prefer leading the ace from ace-king. Which method is superior?—F.H., Pompano Beach, Fla.

A.—I am sure that if you were to ask them why they lead the ace from ace-king, all would confess that they had been told for taught to do so.

For many years there has been great debate raging about which is better. Articles many pages long have been submitted to bridge magazines by the proponents of each method to show exactly why their chosen way is superior; each is backed by unimpeachable examples to prove their point.

From my many years of experience, I have found little to choose between the two methods. In the International Team Trials some 15 years ago Lew Mathe and Bob Hamman had a major disaster because third hand wasn't sure whether the lead of the king was from A-K or K-Q. On the other hand, a few months ago in our column we ran a hand where the knowledge that opponents led the ace from A-K allowed a grand slam to make, whereas if the opponents were using standard leads declarer would have had to guess how to play.

You pays your money and you takes your choice!

FACSIMILE MACHINES

The Telecommunications Corporation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan announces that the following facsimile machines are approved for use in the public telephone network:-

Type	Group	Manufacturer
FAX 710	3	Canon Corporation
DATAFAX 2000 C	2	Data East Corporation
DATAFAX 2000 D	2	—
NEFAX - 11	3	NEC Corporation
NEFAX - 17	3	—
OF - 1	3	—
OKIFAX 5500	3	OKI Electric Industry Co.
FX 120	2	Ricoh Company
SANFAX 625	3	Sanyo Electric Trading Co.
FO 2715	3	Sharp Corporation
COPIX 6350	3	Toshiba Corporation
Xerox 295	3	Xerox Corporation

The public is advised as follows:

Group 2 Machines transmit and receive an A4 sized original in approximately three minutes. The machines are able to transmit and receive shades of gray so that photographs may be transmitted as black and white pictures with gray shades reproduced.

Group 3 Machines transmit and receive an A4 sized original in less than 90 seconds, the actual time depending on the nature of the original. The machines generally are not designed to transmit and receive shades of gray so that photographs cannot necessarily be transmitted. Some Group 3 machines incorporate facilities so that pictures can be exchanged between similar machines both incorporating those facilities.

N.B. 1) The above models of facsimile machines have been submitted to and tested by TCC. Agents who have not submitted samples for type testing are required to do so. TCC will accept any new applications for approval provided all technical specifications and literature are available in accordance with the tender document TCC 14/85 and samples are submitted.

2) Local agents are required to advise the manufacturing principals whom they represent that the machines shall comply with the special technical conditions available from the Secretary of the TCC Tender Committee at TCC Headquarters/Tower Building/Prince Moh'd Street.